

OPEC ends Madrid talks

MADRID (R) — Eight Organisation of Oil Exporting Countries (OPEC) ministers ended three days of talks aimed at reuniting the group Saturday and said they would meet again in Vienna Nov. 17. "I am very happy with the outcome of the meeting," said OPEC President Rikman Lukman. Lukman told reporters the run-up to the new meeting would give OPEC members time to consult their governments on plans to curb oil production and boost world prices. Lukman gave no indication of what progress had been made in reconciling differences between Iran and Iraq, but earlier in the day Iraq's oil minister Abdul Rahman Al Chalabi said: "I think we are moving towards an agreement." (See page 6)

The Madrid talks were aimed at bringing the two sides together and ending a two-year dispute over oil policy which has kept the world out of OPEC production agreements. Lukman said, "Between now and Nov. 17 we are going to be very busy. People will be talking and exchanging views so that by Nov. 17 we have something very concrete in our hands."

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AROUND THE WORLD...

Namibia talks move to Geneva next week

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Representatives of the United States, Angola, Cuba and South Africa will resume talks in Geneva next week aimed at a Namibia independence settlement, a U.N. source said Friday. The source said the session would be preliminary to a return to the negotiating table in the Congo capital of Brazzaville. According to a U.N. source, the Geneva meeting could begin as early as Wednesday.

S. Arabia starts refund of pension payments

RIYADH (R) — Saudi Arabia has begun repaying more than \$1 billion to foreign workers who subscribed to a pension fund wound up last year, expatriates said Saturday. They said they had begun to receive cheques from the General Organisation for Social Insurance, which had collected an estimated five billion riyals (\$1.35 billion) for the fund before King Fahd cancelled it last year.

100th U.S. Congress adjourns

WASHINGTON (R) — The 100th Congress adjourned in the early hours Saturday after passing a sweeping anti-drug bill and measures to raise \$4 billion in taxes and increase penalties for insider trading fraud. Lawmakers approved dozens of bills and allowed others to die in a final rush to adjourn and return home for campaigning before Nov. 8 presidential and congressional elections. The drug bill, which President Reagan is expected to sign, includes the death penalty for drug-related murders and stiff fines for drug users.

Soviets invite Seoul opposition leader

SEOUL (AP) — South Korea's top opposition leader, Kim Dae-jung, has received an invitation from a Soviet institute to visit Moscow, aides said Saturday. Kim got the invitation last week from Georgy Arbatov, a member of the Soviet Communist Party's Central Committee, the aides said.

Two killed in Kabul rocket attack

ISLAMABAD (R) — Guerrillas fighting the Soviet-backed Afghan government rocketed and shelled the northern town of Kunduz Saturday, killing two people and wounding 14, Kabul Radio said. The radio said rebels fired 40 rockets and 30 mortar shells into Kunduz, capital of Afghanistan's Kunduz province which borders the Soviet Union.

Morocco, India restore diplomatic ties

RABAT (R) — Morocco and India have agreed to restore diplomatic relations with immediate effect after a three-year rift, the Foreign Ministry said Saturday. Rabat severed relations in October 1985 after India recognised the self-styled Saharan Arab Democratic Republic (SADR) proclaimed by Polisario guerrillas fighting Morocco for control of the Western Sahara.

Qatar beheads 2 convicted of murder

BAHRAIN (R) — Qatar Saturday beheaded two men found guilty of murder, an Interior Ministry official contacted by telephone from Bahrain said. He declined to give their nationalities. The Qatari News Agency named them as Youssef Hassan Ahmad and Mohammad Zaid Al Shumari. The agency said the first accused had been found guilty of beating a man to death but gave no details of the second crime.

Soviet leader to visit India

NEW DELHI (R) — Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev will make a three-day visit to India from Nov. 18 to 21, his second in two years, official sources said Saturday. Gorbachev, elevated to the presidency in September, last visited India in November, 1986. The sources said Gorbachev will hold at least two sessions of talks with Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. They said he would also be awarded the Indira Gandhi Peace Prize, named after the prime minister's mother and predecessor who was assassinated in 1984.

Gunmen kill 13 in Punjab

CHANDIGARH (AP) — Suspected Sikh extremists shot and killed 13 people Saturday, including a state leader of the ruling Congress Party, police said. Natchat Singh, a Congress leader and president of the Punjab National Motor Transport Union, was gunned down as he got off a bus in the village of Badhni Khurd, police said. In Ferozpur district, five gunmen armed with assault rifles opened fire on a group of "untouchables" in a resettlement colony near the Pakistan border. Twelve were killed instantly and seven others were wounded, police said.

Thousands mark Machel's death

HARARE (AP) — Thousands of Zimbabweans Saturday flocked to rallies throughout the country to commemorate the death two years ago of President Samora Machel of Mozambique. Machel, who led Zimbabwe's eastern neighbour to independence from Portugal in 1975 after guerrillas fought a decade-long war against colonial rule, was killed when his Soviet-crewed aircraft crashed into South Africa Oct. 19, 1986. An international inquiry found the tragedy was an accident. But Mozambique and Zimbabwe have long maintained that South Africa somehow engineered the tragedy.

South Africa unveils new weapon

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Pretoria's secretive arms industry, flourishing despite an international boycott, unveiled Saturday a highly mobile armoured car. Called the Rooikat, which in the Afrikaans language means a lynx-like cat called the caracal, the weapon was proudly presented to the public by Defence Minister Magnus Malan. Weighing 27 tonnes but capable of driving at 120 km per hour, the vehicle is touted as ideally suited to warfare in bush and desert terrain. It looks like a tank except that it has wheels.

British minister arrives in S. Arabia

RIYADH (R) — British Minister of State for Foreign Affairs William Waldegrave arrived in Saudi Arabia Saturday for a one-day official visit, a British embassy official said. Waldegrave, on a Gulf tour, is scheduled to meet Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal and Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Security General Abdullah Bishara.

Woman detained carrying photos of hostages

MILAN (AP) — Authorities detained a Lebanese woman who was carrying pictures of three American hostages and documents in a false bottom in her suitcase, police said Saturday. The woman stopped Thursday at Milan's Linate airport was carrying photos of Terry Anderson, Thomas Sutherland and Alan Stein to be given to an Italian businessman, said Fortunato Finelli, deputy director of the Milan police anti-terrorist unit. She also carried a hand-written letter signed by Stein, he said. Police refused to say who was to ultimately receive the pictures and documents, or why they were being sent. The woman arrived on a Middle East Airlines flight from Beirut and her suitcase was examined thoroughly, like those of many other Lebanese passengers, police said.



His Majesty King Hussein, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat hold talks in Aqaba Saturday (Petra photo)

Hizbollah buries its dead in Israeli raid, vows revenge

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Lebanese resistance fighters vowed revenge Saturday as they buried six people killed by Friday's Israeli raid in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley.

Fighters from Hizbollah (Party of God), wearing military fatigues, hoisted the six coffins shoulder-high as they marched through the narrow unpaved streets of Mashghara to the cemetery, witnesses said.

"Israel, Israel, our fighters will not kneel down... we shall take revenge," chanted fist-waving militants.

Prayers echoed across Mashghara and black flags fluttered from balconies.

Israeli warplanes flew thunder-

ous supersonic runs over the ancient city of Baalbek in east Lebanon overnight, fueling fears of an imminent attack on the main stronghold of Hizbollah, police said Saturday.

The rare nighttime overflights came hours after Israeli fighter-bombers and helicopter gunships blasted Palestinian and Hizbollah bases, apparently in retaliation for the killing of seven Israeli soldiers in a suicide car bombing Wednesday.

Police said Saturday the final death toll climbed to 16 when one of the wounded died. The total number of people wounded stood at 34.

Kidnappers holding at least two American hostages

threatened to punish them, charging the United States had given advance approval to Israel to stage the attack.

The threat came in a typewritten Arabic statement released in Beirut with an instant colour picture of American journalist Terry Anderson, the longest-held foreign captive in Lebanon.

Police said sonic booms jolted the population of Baalbek out of their beds as Israeli jets crashed the sound barrier in several low altitude runs after midnight (2200 GMT Friday).

"They've seldom done such a thing since the 1982 invasion," said a police spokesman. "People

(Continued on page 2)

Berri hits rightists, says no election before reform

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanese militia leader Nabih Berri accused his rightist rivals Saturday of trying to split the country and said the result would be like splitting an atom.

Berri, head of the Amal militia, said in an interview with Reuters and Visnews television agency the only way to end Lebanon's political crisis was to unite its rival governments.

"I hope new violence will not flare because no side can win against the other, but I cannot make any guarantees because the

conspiracy is very big," said Berri.

"Lebanon now is like an atom that if you break will explode and have dangerous consequences on its surroundings," he said.

Berri is also justice minister in the cabinet led by acting Prime Minister Salim Al Hoss.

The Hoss government is vying for power with one led by army commander Michel Aoun, a Christian Maronite appointed a month ago by Amin Gemayel in his final act as president.

Gemayel ended his term Sept.

22 without a successor having been chosen and the country is still without a head of state.

Berri accused the hardline rightist Lebanese Forces militia of trying to set up its own Maronite state and said it had sabotaged the presidential election.

Parliament met twice to elect a successor to Gemayel but failed both times because of boycotts by Christian deputies opposed to Syrian-backed candidates.

A stay-away by Christian deputies also forced the cancellation

(Continued on page 3)

Congress hears calls for Lithuanian independence

VILNIUS, the Soviet Union (R) — A Lithuanian intellectual who spent 11 years as a political prisoner urged full independence for the Soviet republic Saturday in a fiery speech at a congress broadcast on radio and television.

"Only by removing Soviet troops from our country can independence and freedom be achieved. Sovereignty means full independence," Antanas Terleckas told the founding congress of Sajudis, the Lithuanian Movement for Perestroika.

To resounding applause, he denounced the 1939 Nazi-Soviet pact under which the Baltic republic was absorbed into the Soviet Union.

"We will never come to terms with the Molotov-Ribbentrop pact," he said. "We demand that

the government declare the treaty illegal."

Terleckas is a leader of the Lithuanian Freedom League, which has been condemned by Communist Party authorities here. A rally it called Sept. 28, which drew 5,000 people, was banned and ended in clashes with police.

The broader-based Sajudis, which claims about 180,000 active supporters, has won the backing of the republic's new Communist Party leader Algirdas Brazauskas with more moderate calls for greater autonomy within the Soviet Union.

However, some speakers from Sajudis called for a referendum to decide Lithuania's future and did not exclude the possibility of a vote to secede from the Soviet

Union.

Earlier, the 1,100 delegates rose to their feet to applaud Brazauskas and broke into Lithuanian national songs as he made his first public speech since his appointment Thursday. His predecessor resigned after only nine months in office.

"We used to have the slogan: 'The will of the party is the will of the people,'" Brazauskas told them. "We must reverse this now. We say: 'The will and plans of the people are the will of the party.'"

Founded in June, Sajudis is broadly modelled on the popular fronts which have seized the political initiative in Estonia and Latvia in recent months. The three once-independent Baltic states

Abdul Meguid describes Aqaba talks as important element towards peace

King, Mubarak, Arafat discuss int'l conference

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat held talks at Aqaba Saturday on various regional and international dimensions of the Palestinian problem.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said the three leaders concentrated on the importance of convening an international peace conference on the Middle East under United Nations auspices and attended by the five permanent members of the Security Council and all parties involved in the conflict. Petra noted that the idea for such a conference enjoys the support of most countries.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid termed the tripartite talks as "a historic meeting and... an important element towards peace."

Abdul Meguid said the talks had been friendly and were taking place in "an atmosphere of brotherhood and understanding."

He told reporters Mubarak believed in the need for cooperation and understanding between Jordan and the PLO.

"This meeting embodies that concept," he said. "No doubt its effects will be beneficial regarding peace moves towards a just and lasting solution."

The meeting comes right before a crucial Nov. 1 election in

Israel, fought partly over future peace plans.

The election pits the Likud bloc, which opposes any "territorial concession" to the Arabs, against Labour, which favours an international peace conference and says it will give up part of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

King Hussein said in an interview with the U.S. ABC television network Thursday that the plans of Labour leader Shimon Peres were "a step forward," and that a Likud win would be "an absolute disaster."

The King said Jordan was still willing to form a joint Jordanian-Palestinian peace delegation "if the Palestinians seek it and ask us categorically."

Mubarak said in an interview published Thursday in the Egyptian daily Al-Ahram that the next

(Continued on page 2)

Israeli troops shoot 9 Palestinian protesters

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Israeli soldiers shot and wounded at least nine Palestinians in protests in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip Saturday, Palestinians said.

Troops firing on protesters in the border town of Rafah, wounded a 15-year-old boy and a 42-year-old man, an army spokeswoman said. She said two soldiers were injured by stones in the clash.

A 16-year-old boy was wounded by a plastic bullet and a 13-year-old girl was hit by a rubber bullet when troops fired to disperse demonstrators in Khan Yunis, the spokeswoman said. Palestinians reported a fifth shooting injury in Sha'ti refugee camp.

In the West Bank, soldiers shot

and wounded three protesters. Palestinians said. They said soldiers beat a boy in the village of Fahme.

Troops closed off the village of Si'ir, near Hebron, during a march to mourn a local inhabitant

found dead in a military prison Friday.

An army spokesman said Ibrahim Yasser Mohammad Al Matur, 32, arrested in July on

(Continued on page 2)

PNC to consider four main options

CAIRO (Agencies) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leadership will present four options to the forthcoming meeting of the Palestine National Council (PNC), according to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat.

Arafat, who made a brief stopover in Cairo before flying to Aqaba with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, was quoted as saying by the Middle East News Agency (MENA) that the four options were: declaration of a Palestinian state under occupation, declaration of a state and a provisional government, formation of a provisional government, or a call for temporary international supervision of the occupied territories.

He repeated that the PLO accepts all U.N. resolutions on the Palestinian problem, saying: "International legitimacy is an indivisible whole and we recognise all resolutions, including 242 and 338."

"No power in the world can pick and choose from the resolutions what to accept and what to reject," he said in a reference to Israeli and U.S. rejection of the

U.N. General Assembly Resolution 181.

A senior PLO official said Friday that the PNC meeting would lay down the basis for political progress in the Middle East.

Bassam Abu Sharif, a close adviser to Arafat, said the PNC would consider declaring a Palestinian government and homeland.

The PNC agenda also contained a manifesto which would form the backbone of the Palestinian political movement, he told reporters.

Abu Sharif said the manifesto would contain key provisions on establishing a just peace in the Middle East and removing obstacles to convening an international peace conference.

He forecast that the PNC's decisions would give impetus towards peace and would be constructive and positive — contrary to Israeli suggestions.

Abu Sharif said he hoped the next U.S. president would play a constructive role by accepting lessons from the 10-month Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

On the Occasion of
The Prophet's Birthday



ARAB BANK

has the honour to convey to

HIS MAJESTY KING HUSSEIN

and to the Jordanian people

its felicitations and
most cordial wishes.

Jordanian-Palestinian
information projectSetting
figures
straight

AMMAN — The first statistical bulletin from the West Bank and Gaza covering 1967-1986, compiled mostly from Arab sources, will soon hit universities and research centres throughout the world.

Since the Israeli occupation in 1967, the Arab world has received most of its statistical information on Palestinians under occupation from Israeli sources. This information, according to Secretary General of the joint Jordanian-Palestinian Committee, Dr. Fuad Beseisu, "is not accurate."

Initially, the information on the occupied territories is gathered by Arab employees at the Israeli Department of Statistics, but is published by the head of the department, "who is always Israeli," said Beseisu, adding "when the information reaches Israeli authorities' hands, numbers are altered."

Playing with the statistical information has allowed the Israelis to show the world "the occupation is a blessing, not a burden, and that life in the occupied territories has been improving, not deteriorating, since 1967," he said.

Moreover, these indicators are basic for analysing the situation, needs and services, and consequently responsible for improving life in the occupied territories, Beseisu said.

For example, the joint Jordanian-Palestinian Committee, responsible for the bulletin, discovered that Israeli statistics on agriculture and produce stated that the Gaza Strip produces milk and eggs for export. "This is not true," Beseisu said, "but it shows that the occupied territories are producing enough to export" and are not poverty stricken as has been portrayed by the media.

Israeli statistical indicators have also shown that the Palestinian population has decreased. "Their statistics say that the Palestinian population is 1.5 million instead of 1.8," said Beseisu, attributing the play with numbers to the "demographic struggle."

He explained that the Israelis do not include Palestinians who left Palestine in 1967 or those Palestinians who leave their homeland for one year. Both are considered permanent immigrants. In the Israeli count of the inhabitants of the occupied territories, "they (the Israelis) only

count the number of birth certificates," said Beseisu, pointing out that a large number of Palestinians do not register their children.

Even though there is a 300,000 inhabitant difference between the Israeli and Arab statistics, the data bank on occupied Palestine has registered the number of Palestinians at 1.5 million. "Unless we have an accurate number of the inhabitants, all we can say is that the number of Palestinians in the occupied territories far exceeds 1.5 million," he continued.

Although the committee has had to depend somewhat on Israeli sources, "we are aiming to liberate ourselves totally from this dependence." The committee has cooperated closely for the past nine years with ministries

and statistically departments in Jordan; research centres of the Palestine Liberation Organisation; the statistical bureau in Damascus, Syria; regional and international bodies to accumulate statistics from 1967 to 1986.

The tables within the bulletin cover population resources, Israeli colonies, foreign trade, foreign aid, education, health, local administration and production in the occupied territories.

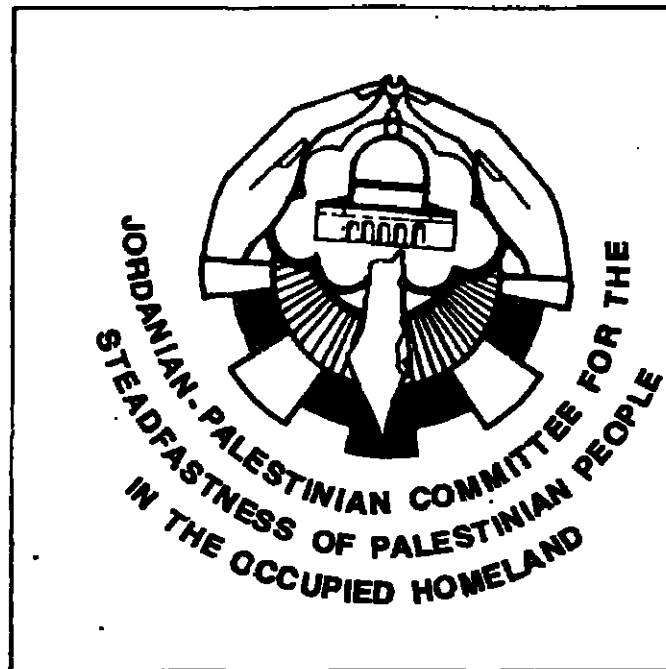
There are statistics which show that the number of Israeli colonies built in 1967 to 71 were only 19. This number jumped to 222 colonies in 1987. The number of hospitals in the occupied territories was 31 in 1967, which had increased to only 33 by 1987.

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Curiously enough, the numbers of beds in hospitals dropped from 3082 in 1967 to 2822 in 1987.

These tables will serve as raw data to help facilitate the analysis process for researchers and all official, public and private bodies interested in the occupied territories or working for the steadfastness of Palestinians. "We want them to have accurate information which will allow them to help the Palestinians on an accurate basis."

Three main studies prepared by the committee will supplement the data bank by providing analysis to the statistics compiled. Population and demographic struggle; labour force develop-

ment; and realms of industrialising food are presently being translated into English.

The committee has already started distributing the bulletin, which appeared in June 1988, to ministries and statistical departments in Jordan. Distribution of the bulletin will reach Arab universities, universities world-wide which have Middle East centres, main research bodies regionally and internationally and all international bodies.

The only drawback of the bulletin is that the statistics are not up to date. Beseisu explained, "there is usually a time lag between publication and statistics." Since the committee depends on Israeli statistics, "we will be de-

layed since not all their (Israeli) statistics for 1987 have not yet been published."

However, Beseisu hopes that the second bulletin will be published in 1989 updating the statistics on the occupied territories, with conservative bulletins following. Beseisu added that specialised bulletins with more detailed tables will accompany the yearly bulletins. "For example a bulletin on combat statistics: the numbers of fighters, detainees and martyrs."

A network is presently being planned which will allow for individuals in the occupied territories to feed their computers information. The information will reach the main data bank in Amman "in one way or another." "This data bank will serve as an information bank on the ongoing social and economic developments in the occupied territories," he said.

Also on the agenda is information gathering by referring to all PhD theses on Palestine done in Jordanian universities. This project is to start within a few months, according to Beseisu. In addition to updating the data bank on the occupied territories, the committee has started gathering information on all of Palestine, including statistics on the Israeli economy and society, and on the Arabs living in Israel. Beseisu hopes this bulletin will be out in 1990.

The joint Jordanian-Palestinian Committee was formed during the 1978 Baghdad summit for the purpose of assisting Palestinians in the occupied territories. Jordan's decision to sever administrative and legal ties with the occupied territories did not affect the status of the joint committee.

Beseisu pointed out that the Jordanian government officially announced that the severing of ties would not affect Jordan's assistance to the Palestinians. During the last meeting between Jordanian and PLO officials, a decision was reached to keep the joint committee.

The Amman Lions Club, Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Regency Palace Hotel, 7:30 p.m. Lions Philadelphia Club, Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Regency Palace Hotel, 7:30 p.m. Philadelphia Rotary Club, Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m. Rotary Club, Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2:00 p.m. Royal Automobile Club, Jabbal Amman, Eight Circle, Tel. 815261.

Prayer Times (Sunrise to Sunset)

05:41 Dhul

11:20 Dhul

16:59 Maghreb

18:16 'Isha

Children's Heritage and Science Museum. Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.

Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 3 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 631760. Closed Tuesdays.

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Ammoura's watercolours show
confidence, technical ability

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The work of Alia Al Shanti Ammoura, now on show at the Alia Art Gallery, is deceptive. At first it seems to be a fairly straight forward exhibition of well executed watercolours of still life objects and of the wonderful north Jordan scenery. Look again and you will see that these subjects are merely vehicles by which Ammoura expresses her own very personal feelings and emotions.

To a certain extent all landscape artists do this, picking out scenes either consciously or subconsciously, that appeal to them on an emotional level. More often one suspects the views are chosen simply because of their innate natural beauty. The scenes Ammoura chooses, bar a few of the conifers around Ajloun and Dibbin, are not even terribly attractive let alone beautiful and mostly the lonely desolate views she paints act only as a foil for the wonderful windswept skies that fill, Turner like, most of the paper.

Not for Ammoura the pure blue untroubled skies of Jordan's long summer months, but rather the dark turbulent winter skies across which skud huge billowing clouds, grey and threatening, that have their origins beyond the horizon. Highly emotive these skies are balanced by the loneliness of a dry and empty countryside that is dwarfed beneath social, crossed by diverging paths each significantly seeming to lead to nowhere.

In other paintings, like one of the "Landscape from the North"

series, in place of the clouds, Ammoura has broken the wide arc of the sky up into planes of soft and subtle shades which gently nudge each other this way and that, imparting life and movement to the whole scene. Sometimes these planes, these wide brushstrokes of wash cut upwards through the line of the horizon like plumes of smoke. And in all her landscapes, however dark and wild, there is always light. Often it is just a touch of orange that glints through the distant trees. At other times it is like the last rays of the setting sun, low and slanting, blurring the edges of reality.

Ammoura's quicker more spontaneous landscapes reveal her talent for using vertical and horizontal elements to take essentially simple scenes interesting and memorable as for example in "After the Harvest." Beyond the two cypress trees and the lamp stand, the low flat countryside around Irbid stretches out to the horizon, miles away, while in her sketches of Amman, TV aerials and tall church towers produce the same effect.

While equally well painted Ammoura's still life compositions, unlike the landscapes do not carry such strong emotional undertones. Rather they are studies on how best to convey in her chosen media the shape, the texture, the feel of things. The best among these works is the painting of the grapes, translucent and luscious and those devoted to the depiction of the rose where she

captures to perfection the play of light on the soft surfaces of the petals. But in all the paintings one gets the feeling she is not so much interested in the objects as their background to which she devotes great attention capturing every nuance of shade and colour.

Ammoura's first tentative depictions into her husband's main field of work, portraiture are also very successful. Particularly good is her rendering of a bedouin woman. In brushstrokes of deep

browns, lit with tiny streaks of orange Ammoura emphasises the swing of the hips, the curve of the face and the deeply inset eyes.

Since her last exhibition almost two years ago here in Amman, Ammoura has matured greatly, her work showing a greater confidence and technical ability. This, coupled with her talent to paint landscapes with the power to move the viewer, put her among the top Jordanian painters. The exhibition runs until Thursday, Oct. 27.

of the Egyptian and PLO delegations accompanying Mubarak and Arafat. The Egyptian delegation included Abdul Meguid, Mubarak advisor Osama Al Baz, Presidential Secretary-General Zakaria Azmi and Cairo's ambassador to Jordan. The PLO delegation included Executive Committee members Mahmoud Abbas, Abdul Razak Al Yahya and Mohammad Milhem and Arafat advisor Hani Al Hassan.

Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh and Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri also attended the dinner.

Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem hosted a dinner in honour

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A still life by Alia Al Shanti Ammoura

captures to perfection the play of light on the soft surfaces of the petals. But in all the paintings one gets the feeling she is not so much interested in the objects as their background to which she devotes great attention capturing every nuance of shade and colour.

Ammoura's first tentative depictions into her husband's main field of work, portraiture are also very successful. Particularly good is her rendering of a bedouin woman. In brushstrokes of deep

browns, lit with tiny streaks of orange Ammoura emphasises the swing of the hips, the curve of the face and the deeply inset eyes.

Since her last exhibition almost two years ago here in Amman, Ammoura has matured greatly, her work showing a greater confidence and technical ability. This, coupled with her talent to paint landscapes with the power to move the viewer, put her among the top Jordanian painters. The exhibition runs until Thursday, Oct. 27.

Ammoura's quicker more spontaneous landscapes reveal her talent for using vertical and horizontal elements to take essentially simple scenes interesting and memorable as for example in "After the Harvest." Beyond the two cypress trees and the lamp stand, the low flat countryside around Irbid stretches out to the horizon, miles away, while in her sketches of Amman, TV aerials and tall church towers produce the same effect.

While equally well painted Ammoura's still life compositions, unlike the landscapes do not carry such strong emotional undertones. Rather they are studies on how best to convey in her chosen media the shape, the texture, the feel of things. The best among these works is the painting of the grapes, translucent and luscious and those devoted to the depiction of the rose where she

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JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN
TELEVISION

Tel. 77111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

13:00 Koran
13:30 Program review
13:25 Children's programmes
14:10 Religious plays
15:30 Live transmission of Prophet Muhammad birthday celebrations

PROGRAMME TWO

17:00 Religious talk
17:45 Local programme
18:00 News summary in Arabic
18:05 Local programme
19:10 Religious programme
19:50 Program review
20:30 News in Arabic
20:30 Local series
21:30 Program review
21:40 Religious play
22:00 News summary in Arabic
22:10 Play contd.

RADIO JORDAN

535 KHz, AM & 99 MHz FM & partly on 5200 KHz. SW

07:00 Morning Show
07:30 Newsdesk
08:00 Morning Show
08:00 News Summary
11:05 In Concert
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session contd.
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Instrumentals
14:20 Science Report
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumentals
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 Listeners' Choice
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Rhythm and Blues
19:00 Newsdesk
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary

21:05 Evening Show continued
21:55 News Summary
22:00 Evening Show continued
23:00 News Summary
23:57 News Headline
24:00 Close Down

BBC WORLD
SERVICE

629, 720, 1323 KHz

06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 English Songsmiths 06:45 Reflections 06:50 Financial Review 07:00 World News 07:09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 07:30 Lyrics and Lyrics 07:45 Letter from America 08:00 Newsdesk 08:30 Jazz for the Asking 09:00 World News 09:09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 09:30 From Our Own Correspondent 09:45 Words 09:50 Waveguide 10:00 World News 10:09 Newsdesk 10:15 The Pleasure of the Young 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 Science in Action 11:45 Americans in Europe 12:00 News Summary followed by Short Story 12:15 Classical Record Review 12:30 Religious Service 13:00 World News 13:09 News about Britain 13:15 From Our Own Correspondent 13:30 Puccini and His World 14:00 News Summary followed by Play of the Week: A Moon for the Misbegotten - Part 2 15:00 World News 15:09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 15:30 Sports Roundup 15:45 The Tony Myatt Request Show 16:00 News Summary 16:30 Concert 17:00 Newsdesk 17:15 Concert Hall 18:00 World News 18:09 News about Britain 18:15 Rescuing the Rhino 18:45 Letter from America 19:00 World News 19:09 Commentary 19:15 Jazz for the Asking 19:45 Sports Roundup 20:00 Newsdesk 20:30 Round the Home 21:00 News Summary followed by Classical Record Review 21:15 The National Brass Band Championship 1988 22:00 World News 22:09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 22:30 Sunday Half Hour 23:00 News Summary followed by Short Story 23:15 The Pleasure of the Young 24:00 World News 00:09 A Choice of Verse 00:25 Book Choice 00:

Al Hussein receives congratulatory cables

AMMAN (Petra) — On the occasion of the Prophet Mohammad's Birthday, His Majesty King Hussein received cables of good wishes from senior officials and representatives of public organisations. These included the prime minister, speaker of the Upper House of Parliament, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief, the Islamic Chief Justice and the heads of public security, intelligence and civil defence services.

Arab philosophers establish society

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — An Arab Philosophical Society (APS) has been established with its headquarters in Jordan, in implementation of resolutions taken by Arab philosophers at their meeting here in December 1987, and with support from His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, according to Dr. Ahmad Madi, the provisional president of the new society.

In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Madi said that Arab philosophers held a meeting in Amman in 1983 and referred the question of such a society to the following meeting which was held in 1987 under the patronage of Prince Hassan.

According to Madi the society's constituent assembly convened in Amman last month and endorsed the basic statutes and elected a board which includes representatives from Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, Algeria and North Yemen.

The society is now involved in preparations for the board's first meeting. Madi noted that the society will pave the way for close cooperation among Arab people specialised in philosophy and encourage teaching of philosophy in the Arab World at the university and secondary school levels.

Contacts are underway now to call philosophers from Arab states to join the new society, Madi added. Those joining the society should carry an MA degree in philosophy as a minimum and should have written a number of subjects or books on philosophical topics, Madi pointed out.

The society plans to issue a gazette, publishing different articles by Arab philosophers, and will launch contacts and cooperation with non-Arab philosophical societies.

In his inaugural address to last December's meeting in Amman, Prince Hassan said philosophy played an honourable role in shaping Arab and Islamic cultures. He expressed hope that philosophy will assume its role in contributing to the advancement of society.

Berri assails

(Continued from page 1)

of a parliamentary session last Tuesday at which a new speaker was due to be chosen.

Berri said a new head of state could not be elected before reforms were made to give Lebanon's Muslim majority a greater say in the Christian-dominated political system.

"It has now become clear that political reforms should happen before the election of a president. We will not have a president or a parliament without political reforms," he said.

Berri defended Syria's political and military involvement in Lebanon, saying Damascus supported Lebanese independence.

Jordan celebrates Prophet Mohammad's Birthday today

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — Jordan along with the Arab and Islamic nations Sunday celebrate, the Prophet Mohammad's Birthday with religious ceremonies to be held in mosques and Islamic centres around the Kingdom.

The main ceremony will be held at the Grand Hussein Mosque, downtown Amman, with the participation of leading scholars. A celebration will also be organised by the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs at Al Hussein Youth City Sunday when minister of Awqaf and leading Islamic scholars will address the audi-

ence. The ministry has organised other activities on the occasion which include among other things visits to hospitals and orphanages to offer gifts to patients and poor children and has arranged for a campaign to raise funds for needy people in different parts of the Kingdom in cooperation with the Zakat (alms for the poor) Fund.

In addition, there will be several seminars on radio and television and Islamic book exhibitions will be held to mark the occasion. A statement by the ministry's

committee in charge of the ceremonies said that a week-long cleanliness campaign at mosques around the country will be organised in cooperation with Girl Guides and Boy Scouts.

The committee will organise trips by school children to the tombs of the Prophet's companions and several plays and competitions will be organised while contributions will be collected for charity.

On the occasion, all government departments and public institutions will be closed.

ARC renews railway line to help boost phosphate exports

AOABA (Petra, J.T.) — The Aqaba Railway Corporation (ARC) this year replaced 62-kilometre length of rail between Batn Al Ghoul and Rum at a cost of JD 6.2 million, according to ARC Director General Madi Qattamin.

Qattamin said that work is now underway to renew the rest of the railway line which extends from Rum station to Aqaba port in the second phase of a plan to renew the 116 kilometres line at a total estimated cost of JD 9 million. He said that the work was expected to be completed by the middle of the coming year.

Last year, Qattamin said, the ARC renewed 64 kilometres of the line extending between Ma'an

and Batn Al Ghoul.

The renovation work entails replacing the old lines with new track that can bear greater axial weights reaching up to 20 tonnes and is designed to help carry more shipments of phosphate from the mines in southern Jordan to Aqaba for export. The ARC's present capacity, seven million and a half tonnes annually.

Last month, Qattamin was quoted as saying that the renovation work entailed the construction of maintenance workshops.

Once the new lines have been laid, Qattamin said, more locomotives and carriages will be required, especially as the new Shidieh mine will have started operations, thus increasing the quantities of phosphate to be exported.

Sharif Zaid returns

AMMAN (Petra) — Armed Forces Commander in Chief Field Marshal Shafiq Zaid Ibn Shaker has returned to Amman following an official visit to Turkey during which he met Turkish military commanders and toured a number of military positions and institutions, as well as military industries and examined military training programmes (Petra).

Tabbaa stresses importance of Arab cooperation in science, technology

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The Arab Organisation for Standardisation and Metrology (AOSM) Saturday opened a four-day meeting at its headquarters in Amman to discuss a report by the organisation's secretary general on activities in the past stage and reports by sub-committees charged with working out specifications and standards of a number of Arab products.

Minister of Industry and Trade Hamdi Tabbaa who opened the meeting, underlined the importance of cooperation among Arab countries in all fields, especially those connected with science and technology and affect the Arab people's daily life.

He said that among these are standards and specifications of different manufactured products, which if unified would help facilitate the flow of trade among Arab countries. Jordan has realised the importance of specifications and standards, and adopted unified sets for different national products, Tabbaa noted.

He said that advanced science and technology necessitate the adoption of unified sets of specifications and standards in the Arab World; and increased concern over the development of world trade makes it imperative on the Arab states to take speedy measures.

The minister reviewed the AOSM achievements since its establishment in 1967, and the role of unified sets of specifications and standards in promoting inter-Arab trade.

Since its establishment, the AOSM has set up 33 sub-committees entrusted with various technical aspects of specifications and issued nearly 1,000 Arab sets of standards, now considered as a basic element in Arab industry, the minister added.

AOSM Secretary General Mahdi Hannouch addressed the meeting, outlining the organisation's achievements over the past years; and underlined Arab Eco-

nomie and Social Council resolutions pertaining to the application of unified standards and specifications in order to stimulate Arab industry and trade. The AOSM has been estab-

lished to unify technical terms and standard specification for products, and to assist in the establishment of national bodies, and collaborate with international standards activities.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

SPORTS DECREE: A Royal Decree has been issued endorsing a law amending the sports federation codes, which defines the powers of the Sports Federation Council in its functions of sports promotion in Jordan (Petra).

DRUG PROTOCOL WITH EGYPT: The Council of Ministers Saturday announced its approval of an Egyptian-Jordanian protocol on joint cooperation to combat drug trafficking, signed by the joint Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee's meeting in Amman last August (Petra).

LOCUST MOVEMENTS: A meeting was held in Zarqa Saturday to discuss the monitoring of locusts in the eastern regions of Azraq and Omari (Petra).

ART COMPETITION: The Spanish Cultural Centre Saturday announced competition for young Jordanian artists. Each competitor can contribute two paintings on different subjects to be submitted before the end of December 1988, and awards will be given to the first three winners (Petra).

WOMEN'S POLICE TRAINING: A ceremony was held Saturday at the Women's Police Force headquarters in Amman to graduate new batch of policewomen who had taken the first basic course in police work. Colonel Husni Shahin distributed diplomas to the graduates and awards to those who had excelled (Petra).

REHABILITATION GRADUATES: The Al Rajaa Rehabilitation Centre, whose students suffer from hearing trouble, and acquire basic skills through special education programmes, graduated its first batch of students in Amman on Saturday. The centre now offers basic education to 77 male and female students from the first elementary to the first preparatory classes (Petra).

HAI HASSAN RECEIVES ENVOY: Transport and Telecommunications Minister Khaled Al Haj Hassan Saturday received the Tunisian ambassador in Amman and discussed with him relations in the field of transport and communication (Petra).

GERMAN ART EXHIBITION: The vice president of Jordan University of Science and Technology Saturday opened an art exhibition by German Artist Otto Herbert Hayek. The seven-day exhibition includes paintings depicting gardens, commercial centres, and cities in West Germany (Petra).

GERMAN OFFICIAL EXPECTED: West German senior foreign ministry official Helmut Schaefer is due here on Oct. 30 on an official visit to Jordan expected to last several days (Petra).

ISLAMIC JUDGES: The Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Saturday organised a competition for 22 candidates who applied for jobs as Shari'a (Islamic Law) judges in a number of Islamic courts in Jordan. The candidates are all graduates from the University of Jordan's Faculty of Shari'a and Arab universities specialising in Islamic Law (Petra).

YARMOUK BOOK EXHIBITION: A five-day book exhibition was opened Saturday at Yarmouk University by its president Mohammad Hamdan. On display are selections of books on different topics, ranging from religion and Arabic literature to history, information and economics as well as children's books (Petra).

KARAK BOOK EXHIBITION: A book exhibition at Prince Hassan school in Karak displaying 6,500 books on different subjects, mainly sciences and computers has opened under the organisation of local Jordanian publishing houses (Petra).

SALT BOOK EXHIBITION: A seven-day book exhibition was opened Saturday at the Cultural Centre in Salt, comprising sections on children, national heritage, sciences, literature, and religion (Petra).

TRAINING COURSE: The Jordan Electricity Authority has opened a training course for 20 of its employees to upgrade their skills and efficiency, organised in cooperation with Yarmouk University (Petra).

JAFER YOUTH CENTRE: Minister of Youth Awad Khleifat has decided to establish a youth centre in Jafra to provide services to Badi youth in the south eastern regions of the country (Petra).

EMBEZZLEMENT CONVICTION: The military court has sentenced Saadi Abdullah Hassan Salim to one year imprisonment and the payment of JD 800 fine for embezzling public funds (Petra).

MAN JAILED FOR HASHISH: The military court has sentenced Yasser Ali Mohammad Jasseem to one-and-a-half years imprisonment and the payment of JD 500 for trafficking with hashish (Petra).

Land reclamation

Restoring arid areas could triple farmlands, Dweiri says

By Ma'moun Arar
Petra

AMMAN (Petra) — The University of Jordan is currently involved in studies designed to reclaim arid regions estimated at 12 million dunums of Jordan's lands, and mostly located in the south eastern parts of the Kingdom.

The university's agriculture faculty had been entrusted to carry out a three-year study between 1985 and 1987, and later was requested to extend the study until 1991, according to the faculty's dean Dr. Mahmud Dweiri. Arid regions in Jordan constitute nearly 13 per cent of the total area of the Kingdom, and their reclamation would add substantial areas of cultivable land to the present farmed regions which constitute only six per cent of the lands in the Kingdom, Dweiri said.

According to Dweiri, the arid regions receive between 100 and 200 millimetres of rain water annually, and the Faculty of Agriculture has been entrusted with the task of finding means to exploit the unused land through the employment of surface water areas, improving the fertility of the soil, protecting the vegetation and, introducing new types of plants and shrubs to create pastures as well as planting crops that adapt well to the climatic conditions in south east Jordan.

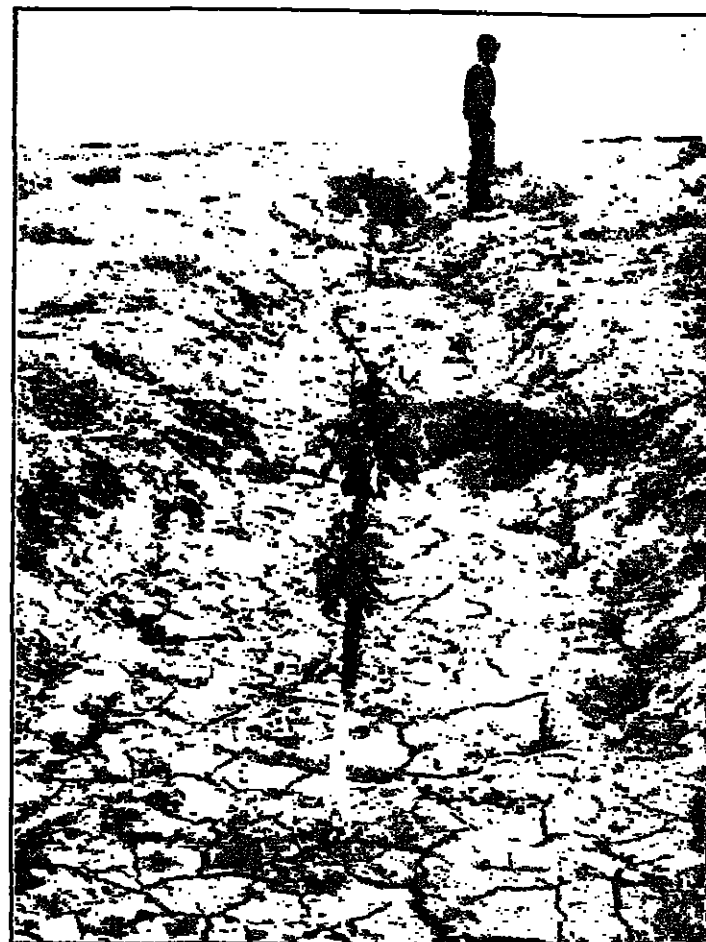
He said that the reclamation of land in these regions is bound to stem desertification and increase underground water storage.

These areas, he added, should be reclaimed as soon as possible, otherwise nearby cultivable regions will be threatened.

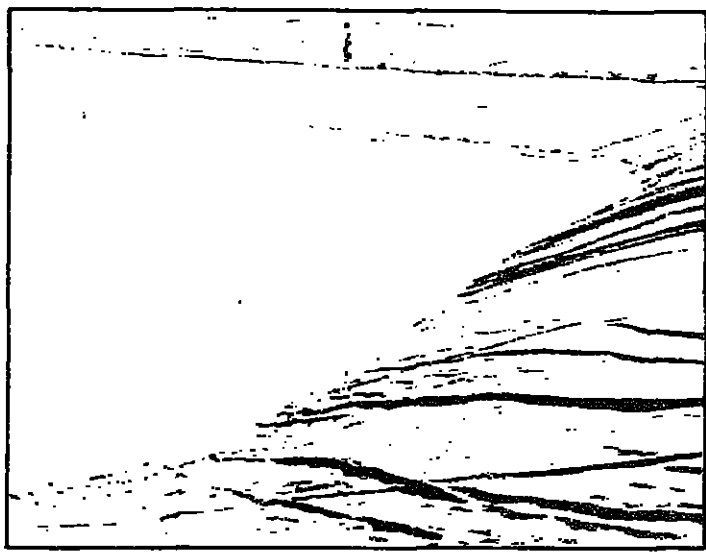
Dweiri said that the total cost of the study, which entails experimental plantations in a number of areas, was estimated at JD 1.6-2 million.

The project's director, Dr. Awni Tu'eimeh, said that the arid regions receive small amounts of rain which come in the form of thunder showers which fall in sudden bursts and flow off the soil, failing to seep into the ground.

Another disadvantage is, of course, the high rate of evaporation due to the rise in tempera-



Creating a garden out of the wilderness: a fruit tree grows in an arid area, fed by irrigation (above). Artificial pools catch rainwater to save it for agriculture (below).



Seminar recommends establishment of nurseries at mothers' work site

By Sana Attiyyeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A seminar on breastfeeding which ended here last week proposed several recommendations to promote breastfeeding in the fields of legislations, health education, training, services, breastfeeding practices, research and development.

Participants of the two-day seminar, which included ten working papers from Jordan and the United States, recommended ensuring policies on maternity leave, lactation breaks and establishing nurseries at the site of the mother's work in order to support the ability of working women to breastfeed successfully.

It was suggested that a task force be established from the public and private sectors, including a full time coordinator, to carry out the responsibility of forming a national breastfeeding strategy and plan of action.

The seminar, sponsored by the Ministry of Health, Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), called for a strengthening of interpersonal channels and direct communication with the target audiences through the mass media. It was recommended that such health education mass programmes take the "social marketing approach," to be consistent, continuous, long-term and based on updated scientific methods of local research and field surveys.

A recommendation stipulated that theoretical and practical training of modern scientific aspects of breastfeeding should be included in the medical, nursing and midwifery school curricula. It was also proposed that there be training of experts in the design, implementation and evaluation of competency-based breastfeeding training programmes.

Including breastfeeding concepts and practices in education activities for all health care providers, as well as traditional midwives, was also recommended. Participants suggested that there be emphasis on modern concepts and principles of breastfeeding within the school curricula as part of the educational reform movement.

Other recommendations stated revising the practices in maternity-related services to support breastfeeding, including prenatal

clinics, mother and child health care clinics (MCH), hospitals and follow-up postnatal visits. It was suggested to develop and utilise mothers support groups, and to provide specially-trained personnel for each MCH clinic and maternity unit to counsel mothers in breastfeeding. In addition, members of the seminar proposed extending existing services to ensure wider outreach for mothers delivering at home.

The seminar also proposed that increased feasible research be undertaken into breastfeeding, with evaluation of factors causing success or failure, and the influence of cost-effective interventions, especially methods of education on breastfeeding. It was suggested that studies be conducted on current practices concerning the use of colostrum, and comparing breastfeeding and bottle-feeding in their effects on infections in the new-born, and during infancy.

The seminar outlined a number of recommendations to improve breastfeeding practices in Jordan, to maintain an adequate supply of breast milk and ensure that the infant receives all the benefits of breastfeeding, including maximum nutrition and protection from disease.

The recommendations on effective breastfeeding practices called for the following:

To encourage initiation of breastfeeding within the first six hours after birth:

To avoid all liquids other than breastmilk, including glucose wa-

ter and teas, in the period immediately after birth:

To take advantage of the availability of colostrum (the breast liquid in the first three days after delivery) at birth to ensure that the mother gives it to the baby immediately after birth:

To breastfeed in response to the demand of the infant rather than following a predetermined schedule:

to delay all supplements — including milk formulas and products and juices — during the first four to six months of the baby's life; and hasten to encourage correct weaning practices in a gradual way, with the introduction of appropriate complementary foods, and to delay complete weaning for one year.

The British Arts Theatre at the Jordan Inter-Continental presents

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CASTING: BRUCE MONTAGUE
JUDY BUNTON
DEBBIE ARNOLD
JOSEPHINE TEWSON

Produced by CHRISTOPHER O. SANFORD
Directed by DREW NEWMAN
Screenplay by TERRY PARSONS
Libretto by ALLAN MILLER-BURNFORD
The entire cast are shown by British Arts

FROM 23-27 OCTOBER 1988
AT AL-BADIYA ROOM

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- An art exhibition entitled "Bait Al 'Arabi," by Hanna Sadik Beraudo, at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- Children's book exhibition, at the Women's Cultural, Social and Sports Club, Amman.
- Exhibition: Photographs and maps of archaeological sites, at the Goethe Institute.
- A paintings exhibition by Alia Al Shanti Ammoura, at Alia Art Gallery, Insurance Building, Jabal Amman.
- An exhibition of paintings by Sudanese artist Mohammad Khalil, at Al Wasiti Gallery, Plaza Hotel — 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- Book exhibition at the Yarmouk University.
- Drawing of cities, gardens, and commercial centres by German Artist Otto Herbert Hayek at Jordan University of Science and Technology.
- Annual book exhibition at Prince Hassan Secondary School, Karak.
- Book exhibition at the Cultural Centre, Salt.

LECTURES

- Lecture on astrology at Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation at 6:00 p.m.

Jordan Times

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Justice without borders

THE recent Soviet proposal to enhance the role of the International Court of Justice is a step in the right direction.

International order has been left for too long to the dictates of raw power and political manipulations. Those who framed the United Nations charter had envisioned a dynamic role for the judicial organ of the United Nations system, but international rivalries, especially between the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, lead to a steady erosion of the potency and relevancy of the International Court of Justice in its ability to settle disputes between states.

But now that superpower relations have thawed in the wake of Mikhail Gorbachev's accession to power in Moscow, the time is ripe to breathe new life into the International Court. That is why the official proposal of the Soviet Union to accord the International Court its due by making its verdicts and findings binding is worthy of note and praise. On the day when law governs relations between states, the international community, both strong and weak countries, will sigh with relief.

Just as relations between individuals and legal entities within civilised nations are governed by law, so must be the relations between individual states in what is being increasingly recognised as one world community. This is the only system by which small countries could cease to be at the mercy of the big and powerful countries and the only viable and peaceful avenue to settle conflicts arising from aggression. International legal adjudication is the final arbiter between nations which failed to resolve their differences by negotiation or arbitration.

The potential of such a system for crisis management is limitless. Regional conflicts like the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Iran-Iraq war, the Angola crisis and the Nicaraguan problem could have been addressed and resolved a long time ago had the International Court of Justice been allowed to contribute to their resolution.

Of course, that nations are still highly conscious of their sovereignty, and not yet ready to relinquish political and juridical control over their vested national interests, is well acknowledged if not well appreciated. This state of affairs, however, must not deter us from looking forward and striving for an international order where law is supreme. The Soviet proposal, if favourably received, would bring humanity that much closer to an international code of conduct where rights, disputes and conflicts are determined by law.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i Arabic daily Saturday commented on His Majesty King Hussein's televised interview with the American ABC Network echoing his emphasis that the Palestinians are essential parties to the peace process in the Middle East. The King called on the Israelis to take a decision that would be conducive to the cause of the aspired peace, and expressed hope that the United States will adopt a more positive stand with regard to the situation in the region. The King's statements, the paper said, drew world-wide reaction to an extent that some observers said they signalled Jordan's re-entry into the arena of the Middle East peace process. But in fact, the paper noted, Jordan has always sought to establish peace and end the Arab-Israeli conflict by bolstering Arab solidarity and by exerting efforts both on regional and international levels.

Dwelling on the same subject, Al Dustour daily described the King's statements as frank and clear, tackling the situation in the Middle East region and projecting Jordan's views with regard to peace. Perhaps the most important point in the King's statements, said the paper, was his emphasis on the fact that Jordan remains a basic and essential party in the Arab-Israeli conflict and so it will remain committed to the cause of a just and durable peace. The Kingdom, the paper noted, will continue to seek an international peace conference in order to help the Palestinians regain their rights, and also to establish a lasting peace.



Zaki — Sawt Al Shaab

Sawt Al Shaab daily, which also discussed the same subject said in editorial that Israel's extremist policies under Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir are disrupting all peace efforts and bringing the Middle East region nearer to disaster. The paper echoed King Hussein's sharp criticism of Israel's arbitrary measures against the Palestinians and emphasised his call for an international conference to achieve a just and durable peace in the region.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARY

The noble strugglers

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily pays tribute to Roman Catholic Patriarch of Jerusalem Michael Sabbah, a Palestinian who is now touring the United States advocating the cause of his country and countrymen. Ibrahim Sakijha says that Sabbah has chosen to follow in the footsteps of other religious leaders representing the Christian and the Islamic faiths, who have been exerting all their efforts at the official and public levels to win supporters for the Palestinian people's struggle. Sakijha cites Hilario Cappucci and Elia Khouri both of which Christian leaders suffered at the hands of the Israelis for their nationalist stands, and also Sheikh Izzedin Al Qasem and Sheikh Amin Al Hussein two other Palestinian religious leaders who had to face banishment and hardships for their national endeavours. Sakijha describes these leaders' actions as exemplary coming from men who did not expect a word of thanks or reward for their efforts and their true dedication. Let us hope, the writer concludes, that such precious efforts will eventually be crowned with success.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

Reconsider pricing

THE pricing of the government-made goods and services is an important economic matter, both from a financial point of view or from a management and social point of view. This pricing is a worthwhile matter for revision and reform, especially in a country like Jordan, where the government and the public sector in general perform a major role in the field of producing and providing essential services.

The financial importance of the pricing of government-made goods and services stems from the need of the treasury to reduce the budget deficit to enable the Ministry of Finance to honour its heavy financial commitments. This situation which obviously calls for a substantial rise in the prices of at least part of these services. These include water, electricity, education, health, postage, telephones, and the fees for using public utilities such as the Aqaba port and the country's airports.

The management importance of the pricing public services is also related to the need of public institutions to enjoy more autonomy in administration, and self sufficiency in finance. These institutions should be allowed to price their own products so that they can realise fund surpluses, in order to be able them to act, and improve, modernise and expand their services, instead of remaining under the mercy of uncertain subsidies of the treasury, itself in

need of subsidies.

The social dimensions of such a step should of course be borne in mind, and must be taken into account. The most important considerations are the just distribution of income among social groups, and the ability of these groups to tolerate higher financial burdens. It is evident that subsidising public goods and services, across the board, is currently reflected for the benefit of those who consume more — the higher income groups of the population.

Reducing water prices for instance would not benefit limited income families, who use small quantities of water for drinking, cooking and cleaning purposes. These basic needs can be satisfied by a small amount of water which can be priced moderately and even subsidised. But the excess consumption of water for swimming pools and irrigation of huge gardens does not socially qualify for the subsidy of the government, and must be taxed aggressively.

The same applies to electricity of which limited income families need very little for their humble lamps and radios. The excessive consumption of power results from operating airconditioning and heating equipment, deep freezers, and lighting of gardens and

gates.

During the last several years, the government reduced the prices of certain services such as water, electricity, local and international telephone calls. The relative public corporations producing these services suffered, while the limited income groups did not benefit except to a very limited extent.

On the other hand we have a need to reduce consumption by all means. Rationalisation of consumption does not come about by making governmental services cheaper, or by selling them below cost. Subsidy is an open invitation to higher consumption not to saving; it is a disincentive.

One is of course aware of the importance of the social and political factors involved, and appreciates the sensitivity of the government towards limited income groups, such as workers, employees and soldiers, but this cannot be achieved by lowering the prices across the board. Only a reasonable quota should be priced at cost, while the price should accelerate rapidly for consumption beyond that limit.

The reform of pricing of the government pricing policy is essential. It has financial, economic and social merits and must be dealt with... now.

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

Put out more flags — America's in decline

By Graham Earnshaw
Reuters

WASHINGTON — Americans like to be told they are number one, and seeing the flag makes them feel better too.

That seems to be a central message of the U.S. presidential campaign.

The election has in some ways become a battle over who can most convincingly declare the United States to be better than any other country, and some analysts say the flag-waving is spurred by the perception that U.S. power is in decline.

Republican candidate George Bush and Democratic contender Michael Dukakis compete with declarations of how great America is while surrounded by stars and stripes.

"The pact that patriotism is an issue is a sign of the decline of America," said Washington analyst Bruce Stokes. "You protest patriotism when you feel

threatened."

"The wave of patriotism in the 1950s came at a time when people felt very insecure, with a commie under every bed," he added. "Now we have super-patriotism because there's a Toyota in every driveway."

The Republican campaign has leaned particularly heavily on national symbols and Dukakis has accused his opponent more than once of questioning his patriotism, a charge Bush denies.

"This is a time when Americans could use a little reassurance," said Ralph Whitehead, professor of journalism at the University of Massachusetts. "What the Republicans are doing is using symbols to generate a sense of reassurance."

President Reagan, who defeated President Jimmy Carter in 1980 amid the Iran hostage crisis that many Americans regarded as humiliation for their nation, has made "standing tall" and national pride key themes during his administration.

nistration.

God's own

The idea that the United States is God's own country — the so-called doctrine of American exceptionalism — is obviously very important to many Americans.

And there is some evidence backing up the idea of an America in decline. It is not as economically dominant as it was, it no longer has a commanding technological lead. Its athletes finished third in the medal count at the Seoul Olympics, behind the Soviets and the East Germans.

In the eyes of many people in West, it no longer even has a clear moral lead over the Soviet Union.

"A lot of Americans refuse the premise (of decline), but they are so deeply aware of the premise that they are worried about it," Whitehead said.

Bush's attacks on Dukakis during the campaign over the Pledge of Allegiance, a patriotic catechism recited by many American schoolchildren, are effective because of the almost religious nature of American patriotism, said Whitehead.

As governor of Massachusetts, Dukakis vetoed a bill that would have required teachers to lead students in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. He said his state supreme court had advised him that the law would be unconstitutional.

"The Pledge of Allegiance is interesting because it can be accurately described as a secular prayer," said Whitehead.

"Americans tend to be particularly responsive to national leaders who seem to come up with an attractive fusion of religious and secular sensibilities," he added.

"Reagan is an ideal example — one foot in the Bible belt, the other foot in sunset strip."

Metaphorical

The outpouring of emotion over the recent space shuttle flight, which put the United States back in space after a break of nearly three years following the Challenger tragedy, has implications beyond the space race, according to Whitehead.

"America's return to an active role in space can be seen as a metaphor for America's ability to revive its dominant role in the world," he said.

But some analysts say the use of the flag and other symbols in the election has nothing to do with decline and is simply an appeal to Americans' deep-seated patriotism.

Others deny the theory that the United States is in decline at all and stress the country's remarkable resilience.

"It has not experienced an absolute decline, and relative decline is in large part an artifact of the extraordinary base line of the

1950s," says Harvard University

political scientist Joseph Nye. "The United States is not being challenged by a rising military power. Nor are external commitments sapping America's internal strength. And, with certain domestic reforms, the U.S. will be better placed than most societies to adapt to the new dimensions of power in the information age," he said.

Michelle McCollister, a political science student at Ohio State University in Columbus, said the flag and the Pledge of Allegiance were campaign issues basically because for most people, the real policy questions are obscure.

"Most Americans are not that concerned with the substance of the issues because they're not that informed about them," she said.

"But when they hear that Michael Dukakis is against the Pledge of Allegiance, it's like Dukakis is against America."

New weapon sought in war against meningitis

By Stanley Parker
Reuters

BONN — After years of grappling with meningitis, the World Health Organisation (WHO) has started looking for a more potent defence against epidemics of the disease which ravage several developing nations.

The aim is to develop a vaccine to give lasting protection to those most at risk from the disease, whose cyclical outbreaks have given the name "the meningitis belt" to the area of Africa between the Sahara and tropical forests.

The WHO wants a longer-lasting vaccine for group A meningitis, which is responsible for epidemics in the developing world.

One task force helping in the search is the Max Planck Institute for Molecular Genetics in West Berlin.

Dr. Brian Crowe, an Irish member of the Max Planck unit under project leader Mark Achtman, said some very effective vaccines already existed against A group and another group, the C group. But the protection they give usually vanishes in about two years.

The last major meningitis epidemic in the "belt" occurred in 1982-83. After ravaging Mali and Upper Volta, it invaded the West African coastal states of Senegal and Gambia, leaving hundreds dead and thousands more with various degrees of deafness and other problems.

The disease, transmitted in its bacterial form by one of three main groups of meningococcus, usually causes inflammation of the meninges, the membrane covering the brain, and reserves its harshest treatment for children. The bacteria is usually transported in the nasal cavity of people carrying the infection and can be spread by sneezing.

Group A bacteria are responsible for the epidemics in Africa, the Middle East and Asia, and make occasional forays into South America. The B and C forms usually cause outbreaks experienced in more highly developed Europe and North America.

Group A is found in some of the world's poorest nations, where starvation, poor hygiene, scanty medical services and lack of communications ensure a plentiful supply of victims. The millions of people and huge area involved make a biannual vaccination programme impossible.

Some victims seem to lack any natural resistance to the disease. But the immune systems of others enable them to escape the vicious, acute form of meningitis,

and serum tapped from them is being used in the search for a new vaccine.

The serum contains antibodies produced by their immune systems against the meningitis bacteria, and the Max Planck team are examining the way these attack their targets.

However, Crowe warned "we are still in the very early stages of our work and although some promising signs have emerged, potential success is still years away."

In the West, sophisticated medical help available means group B strains of bacteria can be held in check, although no vaccine has yet been developed against them.

Outbreaks of the disease, such as one at present in the west of England, have not reached true epidemic proportions in Europe for more than 50 years.

Crowe said Western scientists, including John Heckles of Britain's Southampton University, were making such good progress in developing a group B vaccine that it could undergo field trials next year.

The bacterial groups are widely travelled — appearing in coun-

tries so far apart that epidemics become pandemics. As some strains of bacteria appear to run their course and vanish, new variants replace them.

Crowe noted that more than one million people were infected in a group A epidemic in China in the late 1960s and early 70s. A pandemic ensued when the same strain turned up in Brazil in 1974/75 and infected 250,000 people.

Nepal was the next target, in 1983, and the identical group A strain has appeared in Saudi Arabia.

Crowe said the strain could be an advance guard of the next wave to hit the "meningitis belt."

During these years of havoc, a parallel group A strain created epidemics in several Mediterranean areas, including Athens, and appeared briefly in Scotland.

A Transatlantic jump then brought epidemics in a Canadian Indian reservation in Manitoba and in Skid Row districts of Seattle and Portland on the U.S. Pacific coast.

The B group involved in the current outbreak in western England first appeared in Norway about 10 years ago and is still prevalent there.

Leo The African

Leo The African by Amin Maalouf. Translated by Peter Segal. Published by Quartet Books Limited. 27/29, Goodge Street, London W1P 1FD.

"My WRISTS have experienced in turn the caresses of silk, the abuses of wool, the gold of princes and the chains of slaves. My fingers have parted a thousand veils, my lips have made a thousand virgins blush, and my eyes have seen cities die and perish. From my mouth you will hear Arabic, Turkish, Castilian, Berber, Hebrew, Latin and vulgar Italian, because all tongues and prayers belong to me. But I belong to none of them. I belong only to God and to the earth, and it is to them that I will one day soon return."

Thus begins the story of Leo the African of Hasan Al Wazzan, the famous Muslim geographer who at the end of a life of adventure sets about chronicling his exploits for his son. Maalouf's book takes the form of an imaginary autobiography in which Hasan Al Wazzan charts his life from his birth in Granada at the end of the fifteenth century. From Granada, along with many other Muslim and Jewish families, the Al Wazzans flee the Christian reconquest and the ensuing inquisition. The family settles in Fez, Morocco, where Hasan spends his childhood. He

takes up work, first in the public baths and then in a lunatic asylum, before joining his uncle, an emissary to the Sultan of Fez, in a long journey through the Atlas mountains.

It is on this journey that he is presented with the gift of a slave girl, Hiba, who, for a time, becomes his travelling companion. On subsequent journeys to the

BOOK REVIEW

East as an itinerant merchant, he falls in love with a Circassian princess, meets the famous pirate Barbarossa, goes to the court of Salim the Grim at Constantinople and performs the pilgrimage to Mecca. During his voyage homeward by sea, he is captured by a Sicilian pirate, taken to Rome and offered as a gift to Pope Leo X. At the end of the first year at the Pope's court he becomes a Christian and is baptised Johannes Leo. While living in Italy our hero writes his renowned Description of Africa.

Through the pages of Amin Maalouf's book the life of Leo of Africa is skillfully re-created and told against the backdrop of the sixteenth century. The book is a wonderful — including the fall of Granada, the Ottoman conquest of Egypt, the magnificent setting of Renaissance Rome under the Medici. Finally, after 40 years of



wandering Leo returns to the Muslim faith and to Tunisia where he sets about recording the adventures of his life for the benefit of his son.

This Quartet publication is the first English language edition of the book, which became the best

seller when it was published in France. Author Amin Maalouf is Lebanese. He was formerly director of the international edition of the Beirut-based al-Nahar, an editor in chief of Jeune Afrique magazine. He now lives with his family in Paris.

since then, and recent labour unrest, prompted the Communist authorities to offer a far-reaching pact with the opposition last month.

"We have... all the conditions for national reconciliation," Defence Minister Florian Swicki, one of several generals still in key posts, told comrades-in-arms at an army day reception in favour of a deal with the opposition to hoist Poland out of stagnation.

It is a remarkable turnaround for an army that seven years ago imposed martial law, sent tanks into the streets to crush the Solidarity free trade union and rounded up 10,000 opponents of the government.

Poland's 400,000-strong armed forces, the second biggest in the Warsaw Pact, have had a powerful voice in national affairs since General Wojciech Jaruzelski seized power in 1981 and put trusted generals in state, government and Communist Party posts.

The military takeover was followed by massive economic collapse in Poland in the following year. Painfully slow recovery

clear the military had done their bit for the economy and it was time for the politicians to do theirs.

"Poland has a chance to get on the road of fast development. This chance cannot be lost or delayed by vain arguments," he said.

Reconciliation between the Communist rulers and society, economic reform and political renewal would put Poland on the road to success, he added.

Possibly trying to reassure the politicians that it was safe to go ahead with major reforms, he said the army remained the guardian of national security "opposing all attempts to violate the constitution or undermine the dignity and stability of the social-state."

Swicki said that during the 1980s the army had repeatedly cut its numbers and held costs to about seven per cent of the state budget.

"That is the lowest limit as far as requirements are concerned and the highest as far as possibilities are concerned."

However, the military were now cutting costs even further and limiting orders for new equipment from foreign and domestic manufacturers, he said.

The army, which since 1956 has diverted some defence plants to civilian production, would further boost its consumer goods output to help the government meet shortages in the shops.

Swicki offered the army's contribution to national reconciliation by praising the achievements of the non-Communist partisan home army during World War II as well as the 200,000 Poles who fought in the west.

"The country will never forget its heroes," he said, linking the wartime achievements of the two forces loyal to the anti-Soviet London government-in-exile to those of the Communist army.

To underline the reconciliation, former home army chief of staff Zygmunt Janke and Stanislaw Skalski, an ace battle of Britain pilot, were among retired officers promoted on army day to the rank of general.

Skalski, who commanded a fighter wing in the 1944 allied invasion of Europe, was jailed by the Communist authorities for seven years when he returned to Poland after the war.

Swicki said the Polish army formed in 1943 under Communist leadership had also suffered at the Soviet Union.

"Its soldiers were people who often in painful circumstances found themselves in vast, northern and eastern areas of the Soviet Union," he said

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Gemayel to make bid to save Lebanon

KUWAIT (R) — Former Lebanese President Amin Gemayel was quoted Saturday as saying he would soon make a tour of Arab states to try to help save Lebanon from partition. In what the Kuwait daily Al Anbaa said was his first interview since leaving office, Gemayel also said the right-wing Christian Lebanese Forces (LF) militia had pressured him to leave the country. "I am today more anxious for Lebanon than at any time past, and will try to save it from disintegration and partition more than I tried when I was in power," he said.

Afghan king urged to help

NEW YORK (R) — A United Nations official trying to bring about a political settlement in Afghanistan has appealed to exiled King Mohammad Zahir Shah to help form a government, the New York Times reported Saturday. "The time has come for the king to step forward and give a lead to the process of national reconciliation called for in the Geneva accords that provided for Soviet military withdrawal from Afghanistan," Diego Cordovez said in an interview. Cordovez, who is Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar's representative for Afghanistan, said he had sent a message to the king to that effect last week. The 73-year-old king has lived in Rome since his overthrow in 1973. He ruled Afghanistan for 40 years.

Professor denies helping in secret talks

WASHINGTON (AP) — An Iranian-born professor living in the United States Friday described as "absolutely false" an Israeli newspaper report that he served as a mediator in secret U.S.-Iranian talks. R.K. Ramazani, a political science professor for 30 years at the University of Virginia, said he was particularly disturbed by the report that mentioned the name of his school. "Those key paragraphs are absolutely false," Ramazani said, referring to a story in the Nation, an English-language weekly newspaper that began publishing in Israel last month. State Department spokesman Charles Redman also has criticized the reports, saying the publication prints a "steady diet of baloney."

Bourguiba to be moved to his birthplace

TUNIS, Tunisia (AP) — Habib Bourguiba, who has lived under house arrest near the capital since he was ousted from the presidency last November, will be granted his request to move to a villa near his birthplace, sources in Tunis said Friday. The former president-for-life will be transferred in the next few days to Monastir, his birthplace about 180 kilometres from the capital.

the sources said, speaking on condition of anonymity. The 85-year-old former leader who suffers from failing eyesight was said to be in otherwise good health, although family friends have said he has been increasingly unhappy over the conditions of his confinement.

Friends appeal for missing Belgian

BEIRUT (R) — Friends and colleagues of Belgian doctor Jan Cools, who disappeared in Lebanon five months ago, Saturday appealed for help in releasing him. "Dr. Jan Cools, a Belgian doctor who chose Lebanon to come to serve a country at war... We appeal for all kinds of assistance that will lead to the release," said the plea published in Beirut's independent An Nahar daily newspaper. Cools is one of 17 Westerners missing and believed kidnapped in Lebanon. Some are thought to be in Beirut's southern suburbs. The 32-year-old doctor, working for the Norwegian aid organisation Norwac, disappeared after he left the Palestinian refugee camp at Rasludiyeh, 80 km south of Beirut, on May 21.

Britain: Talks with Iran stalled

LONDON (AP) — Talks on the resumption of full diplomatic relations with Iran have stalled over Iranian demands that Britain apologise for past disputes, a Foreign Office source said Friday. The source, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said, "there is nothing to apologise for. All we are waiting for is a detailed agreement on how we are going to resume relations on a generally balanced basis." British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe, after meeting Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati in New York, announced Sept. 30 that full diplomatic relations would be restored. But talks on the details between British and Iranian officials in Geneva were adjourned Oct. 5 after two days and have not been resumed.

Greece grieved over threats

ATHENS (R) — Greece on Friday expressed its "grief" over threats by a Palestinian group to attack Greek interests if the government extradited a Palestinian to the United States to stand trial for a 1982 bomb blast aboard a civilian airliner. A statement issued Thursday in Lebanon by the previously unknown Direct Revolutionary Action for the Liberation of Palestine said Greek officials and civilians would be subject to attacks if 34-year-old Mohammad Rashid was extradited to the U.S. "Greece always supported the struggling Palestinian people for self determination... the threats cause us grief and astonishment," government spokesman Sotiris Kostopoulos told reporters.

Afghanistan forms Islamic affairs ministry

MOSCOW (R) — Afghan President Najibullah announced Saturday the creation of a ministry of Islamic affairs, TASS news agency reported from Kabul. Najibullah made the announcement during an international conference on Islam attended by representatives of 25 countries, including the United States and the Soviet Union. Analysts said the move was part of Kabul's peace overtures to Muslim rebels.

Carlucci hits Congress on U.S. arms for Arab states

HUNTINGTON, W.Va. (R) — Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci accused the U.S. Congress and the Israeli lobby on Friday of threatening Middle East peace by opposing sales of American weapons to moderate Arab countries. "The notion that U.S. defence cooperation with moderate Arab states poses a danger to Israel is ill-founded and untrue," he said in a speech. "The real casualty, if the Congress ultimately deals the United States out of military partnership in the Arab World, will be the peace process itself," Carlucci told a luncheon meeting of the American-Arab Affairs Council.

Carlucci said congressional changes and cancellations of Reagan administration arms sales to such nations as Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Kuwait were sending moderate Arab states to Britain, France, China, the Soviet Union and elsewhere for military hardware — and the influence that goes with it. Britain earlier this year announced a multibillion-dollar deal to sell fighter jets and other equipment to Saudi Arabia. Carlucci said Israel must regard non-American arms in the hands of Arab states as a greater risk to its security because fewer restrictions are put on the use of those arms than Washington demands of American weaponry.



Frank Carlucci

Algeria says riots claimed 159 lives

ALGIERS (R) — The final death toll from this month's Algerian riots was 159, the interior ministry announced Friday. The official news agency APS quoted a communiqué from the ministry as saying 154 more people were wounded in the week of riots which erupted Oct. 4. Damage was estimated at 1.6 billion dinars (\$250 million). All but seven of the dead were shot by troops or police. The ministry said the others died of burns or were crushed when mobs rampaged through the streets. Youths, many unemployed, took to the streets in protest over government austerity policies. Official buildings were pillaged and burned to the ground in Algiers and many provincial towns. Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid proclaimed a state of siege in the capital and surrounding area before peace was restored.

IRBID DISTRICT ELECTRICITY CO. LTD. COMPUTER SYSTEMS AND NETWORK INVITATION FOR BIDS

- Date: 20 October 88
No: 9/88
- The Irbid District Electricity Co. Ltd. (IDECO) wishes to expand its usage of computer facilities. This project is to be financed by IDECO. This tender includes delivery CIF Irbid, installation, put-on-operation and maintenance.
 - The Irbid District Electricity Company now invites sealed bids for the supply of computer systems and networks.
 - A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by any interested bidder on the submission of a written application to the above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of JD 50.
 - All bids must be accompanied by a security of not less than 5 per cent of the bid price and must be delivered to the above office on or before 1200 hours on Monday Dec. 5, 1988.
 - Bids will be opened in the presence of bidder's representatives who choose to attend at 1200 hours on the date given in the letter supplied with these documents at the offices of Irbid District Electricity Company.

Symposium examines Israeli taxation policy in the occupied territories

Israel's spoils of occupation

The following is the summary and recommendations of the symposium on taxes and taxation policies in the occupied Arab territories held in Amman on July 20, 1988.

ON JULY 20, 1988 a professional symposium was held at the conference room of the office of the secretariat general of the Jordanian Palestinian Committee for the Steadfastness of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories. The symposium dealt with tax and taxation policies of the Zionist occupation authorities in the occupied territories.

The symposium was inaugurated by Marwan Dudin then minister of the occupied lands affairs being the head of the Jordanian side to the Joint Committee. The Palestinian side in the committee was represented by Mohammad Milhem who also participated in the discussions.

The secretariat general — symposium organiser — was represented by Dr. Fou'ad Beseisu, the secretary general who administered the event and gave the opening speech.

Other senior officials from the government of Jordan and the PLO participated in the symposium as well as a group of financial economic and tax experts from universities, research centres and specialised government departments. Discussions and study analysis had disclosed that, taxation policy is the crux of the exhaustive practices of the Zionist occupation authorities to the socio-economic potentials of the occupied lands. This was mirrored in the direct and indirect effects of that socio-economic tax policy. Such policies have especially contributed to the impoverishment of the Palestinian people in addition to paralysing most of the production and service activities. They also lowered the standard of living to a point below the level delineated to less fortunate countries in LDC's.

After comparing tax policy with the spending policy of the occupation authorities, the discussions have all agreed that the Israeli authorities use tax as the main source for financing the occupation expenditures. These expenditures arose as a result of suppressing the resistances. In accordance to this, the general effect of the absence of the Arab national development in the West Bank and Gaza Strip which was presented prior to the Israeli occupation begot more financial exploitation in addition to the looting of the natural resources (land and water) of the Palestinians.

Israeli taxation policy

The main characteristics of the Israeli tax policy can be classified in the following:

1 — The occupation tax policy aimed not only at destroying the Palestinian economic infrastructural base but also at tying the Palestinian economy and society to the Zionist substance economically, socially and culturally.

2 — Incorporating fundamental changes on the tax systems which were prevalent prior to the occupation. In so doing, occupation authorities imposed new taxes: Value Added Tax and Amnora Tax in Arab Jerusalem. Tax scale, exemptions and tax rebates were drastically changed to serve the occupation goals. The Israeli authorities have also appointed Israelis to manage the tax departments. Local courts were deprived the jurisdiction to reconsider appeals against the decisions of the tax assessors. Instead, military committees were vested with powers to look into the appeals.

3 — The study, follow up and discussions have unveiled the tax burden on tax payers in the occupied territories. It found that the tax burden in 1987 amounted to \$600 million, equivalent to one third of the occupied territories GDP. In the meantime, 1986 per capita income in the West Bank did not exceed \$1,410 and \$578 in Gaza Strip in comparison to \$1,656 in Jordan and \$6,369 in Israel.

4 — A heavy tax burden has interrupted the process of capital accumulation in different economic sectors. This in turn led to the shutdown of many corporations and the termination of their personnel who became unemployed and were forced to immigrate or work in the Israeli labour market.

5 — The symposium has clarified the arbitrary measures practised by the Israeli authorities as far as tax collection in the occupied territories is concerned. Of these practices are:

- Raiding industrial and business firms and stores and seizing their assets.
- Breaking in people's homes and seizing their assets.
- Setting inspection barriers by blocking the roads to seize the cars of tax payers who did not pay taxes.
- Seizing identity cards and detaining persons by the blockades until they pay taxes.

6 — The study has also shown that the absolute amount of the occupation spending did not exceed \$180 million in 1986 — per capita spending reached only \$120 compared to \$825 in Jordan and \$2,413 in Israel — let alone the radical disparity of allocation of such spending in Jordan, Israel and the occupied lands where in the latter spending only serves the Israeli settlement and security policy.

7 — In connection to what has been mentioned thus far and to the available information, it has been manifested that tax revenue surplus in 1986 reached approximately \$420 million injected in the Israeli economy.

Recommendations

Having discussed, analysed and scrutinised these situations, the symposium has come up with the following recommendations:

(A) As regards to the occupied Palestinian land:

- 1 — Supporting the current uprising in its legitimate stance of refraining from paying taxes to the military rule especially taxes whose proceeds are used to finance occupation and repression. The symposium hence recommends the formulation of a work programme for the national tax policy that aims at defying the Israeli policy and deals with the issue of tax boycott in a national, practical and subjective manner.

- 2 — Creating a tax consultative centres in Jerusalem, the West Bank and Gaza Strip through cooperation with specialists at the Palestinian universities and professional associations. This is envisaged by cooperation between lawyers and certified accountants in order to offer legal and accounting tax consultations to the Palestinian citizens and their firms and to initiate activities targeted towards educating tax payers by using means such as holding symposia and publishing researches and studies on the issue.

- 3 — Encouraging and expanding home economies as well as incubating family mutual responsibilities and social solidarity, both being the appropriate remedy to avert taxes.

- 4 — Enhancing national and people's committees and corporations especially those exempted from taxes including Zakat committees in order to expand their productive activities.

(B) As regards the Arab World:

- 1 — Display before the Arab public opinion the tax suffering of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories so as to educate and indoctrinate people against the Israeli occupation.

- 2 — Ascertaining the perpetuity of securing financial and moral support for the Palestinian people in the occupied lands.

- 3 — Encouraging marketing of the occupied territories products in the Arab markets and granting them preferential treatment.

(C) On the international level:

- 1 — Unveil the Israeli arbitrary measures and practices in tax aspects to the world public opinion and international bodies.

- 2 — Exert pressure on the occupation authorities with all available means to publish the actual data on tax revenues collected from the occupied territories as well as the expenditures.

- 3 — Oblige the occupation authorities with all possible means to spend tax and other revenues collected from the occupied territories on the services and public utilities provide for the Palestinian people. Spending must be supervised by the United Nations.

- 4 — Study the possibility of trying the Israeli occupation authorities before the international courts for their arbitrary tax policy.

- 5 — Seeking documentation of the entire financial rights which resulted from Israel's exploitation of financial resources out of tax revenues illegally collected, as in seeking documentation of rights pertaining to lands and water and strive to claim them in the United Nations.

General Recommendations

Emphasising the illegitimate Israeli jurisdiction to change and/or amend the tax systems in the occupied territories. In this capacity, it is rather urgent to prepare a professional study on this topic and to hold a special symposium on it.

— Proceed in taking all measures which are necessary to protect tax payers who refused to pay taxes from Israeli retaliatory and tyrannical measures. This could be fulfilled through escalating solidarity in the occupied territories and exerting Arab and international pressure.

Prepare, publish and distribute a summary of the study in foreign languages on different international corporations.

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OPEC talks make progress

MADRID (R) — OPEC Secretary-General Subroto said Saturday he thought the group was advancing in its delicate quest to heal a rift between Iran and Iraq over oil production.

"I have detected some progress," he told reporters as a sub-committee of eight ministers prepared for a third day of talks in search of a reconciliation.

The ministers have set an official four-week deadline to reconcile the Gulf war enemies and prepare for a new agreement to cut production that is essential for the group to restore credibility on world oil markets and bolster weak prices.

But the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) wants to indicate in Madrid that tension is easing and delegates said Iran and Iraq's oil ministers seemed to be softening their stances.

Both men toned down their rhetoric Friday, apparently hinting that intense pressure from a united front of six other OPEC

states might bring a compromise on production quotas.

Iraq's minister Issam Abdul Rahim Al Chalabi said Friday Baghdad and Tehran were trying to narrow differences and his Iranian counterpart Gholamreza Azagadeh for the first time did not dismiss outright Iraqi demands on production rights.

Nevertheless, oil prices in New York slid about 25 cents a barrel in late Friday trading, shedding some of the gains in Europe earlier in the day and reflecting continued doubts over OPEC's ability to reunite.

Tehran has consistently refused to allow Iraq to match its production quota of 2.369 million barrels per day, prompting Baghdad to boycott the group's self-imposed ceiling for the past two years.

The Madrid talks, expected to

end Saturday evening or Sunday morning, have brought together eight nations on OPEC's price and long-term strategy committees: Algeria, Indonesia, Kuwait, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela, plus Iran and Iraq.

Ministers seem to have agreed all 13 OPEC producers must sign any new accord but have stressed they will need more time to forge a comprehensive pact and reconcile Iran and Iraq.

The group is scheduled to begin a long-scheduled bi-annual conference of all its ministers Nov. 21 in Vienna, but Subroto said Saturday that the super-committee would meet at least once before then although no date had been set.

As well as a formal committee talks held in the Algerian embassy, the eight oil ministers have been locked in a series of bilateral negotiations in Madrid hotels.

Gulf producers, especially Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, are

mooting the possibility of reintegrating Iraq in the quota system at Iran's level and using the resulting 17.429 million barrel-a-day ceiling as a starting point for an increase on a pro-rata basis for all 13 states to 18.5 to 19 million.

That would effectively cut current daily production levels by at least 21 million barrels as a growing number of OPEC states flout a 1986 agreement.

Saudi Arabia has threatened to flood the oil market if OPEC states fail to mend their differences, angering producers such as Venezuela and Ecuador whose debt-laden economies are less able to cope with a sharp fall in prices.

Even Saudi Arabia, the world's biggest oil exporter, unveiled a domestic borrowing scheme earlier this year to ease a growing budget deficit but still has huge foreign reserves built up during the oil boom of the late 1970s and early 1980s.

JIEC to set up industrial exhibition near Sahab

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Industrial Estates Corporation (JIEC) is making arrangements to set up a permanent exhibition of Jordanian industrial products at the Sahab Industrial City south east of Amman.

A JIEC statement said that the

exhibition is designed to highlight Jordanian products and urged local companies and industrial firms to participate in the exhibition.

JIEC Director-General Fayed Suheimat said that the participation fee will be nominal.

Jordan plans big show at int'l fair in Baghdad

BAGHDAD (Petra) — Jordan will take part in the Baghdad International Fair, which will open Nov. 1, 1988, and will display a variety of national products, according to an announcement by Mahmoud Malahmeh, economic attaché at the Jordanian embassy here.

Malahmeh said this year Jordan's pavilion will have a much larger space than previous years and nearly 300 Jordanian companies and industrial firms will

participate in the coming two-week event.

He said Jordanian products to be displayed include leather, plastics, chemicals, cosmetics, scents, engineering products, kitchens, furniture, doors, printing material, paper, office equipment, food supplies, clothes, fertilisers and agricultural products.

The Jordanian pavilion, he said, can sell up to \$100,000 worth of semi-manufactured goods and \$30,000 worth of consumer goods.

Industry and Trade Minister Hamdi Tabbara is expected to attend the opening of Jordan's pavilion along with senior Iraqi and Jordanian officials.

So far, nearly 60 countries and more than 1,800 Arab and non-Arab companies have agreed to take part in the fair.

U.S. firms seek Iraqi business

HOUSTON (R) — U.S. oil service companies, facing lean times as America's domestic energy industry dwindles, are hunting new business opportunities in Iraq following last August's ceasefire in the eight-year Gulf war.

The U.S. Department of Commerce estimates Iraq's expansion and reconstruction plans for its war-hit energy industry will create a \$3 billion market for energy service firms.

Oil service giants like Halliburton Co., Schlumberger Ltd., and Tenneco Inc., are eagerly eyeing opportunities in Iraq and so are smaller companies such as Daniel Industries, Lummus Crest Inc., M.W. Kellogg Co., and Hunt Oil Co.

"We would obviously look forward to participating in any projects when they become available," said Halliburton spokesman Guy Marcus.

Most of the work in Iraq will centre around services and equipment needed in oil exploration and production.

Houston-based Daniel Industries, which installs pumps and measuring devices for large oil loading operations, said Iran already contacted the company to bid on projects to upgrade pipeline stations damaged during the war.

"We're in the drawing board stage now. The rush of business will come when they go out for procurement," said Bill Griffin, Daniel's vice-president of finance.

U.S. firms are not the only ones looking at Iraq. Asian and European firms also hope to land Iraqi business.

According to the Petroleum Equipment Suppliers Association, a trade group, there were 600 companies in 38 countries which supplied oil-related equipment in 1982, the latest year for which data is available.

But U.S. companies may have an edge because they have already established relations with the Iraqis.

Last spring, Iraqi Oil Minister Abdul Rahim Al Chalabi visited the United States at the invitation of U.S. Energy Secretary John Herrington.

Al Chalabi met with officials from Tenneco, Hunt Oil and M.W. Kellogg and said that Iraq was enlarging its cooperation with the United States.

Since the oil price crash started in 1981, U.S. oil service companies have increased their share of overseas business from 30 per cent to about 40 per cent, said Steve Larkin, executive vice-president of the Petroleum Equipment Suppliers Association.

"The industry here (in the U.S.) is about shut down. Iraq won't make or break our companies, but it's important," he said.

Ministry fixes milk prices

AMMAN (Petra) — The prices of dried whole and instant powdered milk contained in tins will be as follows according to a new rate fixed by minister of supply and announced here Saturday:

Mark	Net weight	Price of consumer
France Lait	1700 grammes	JD 1.750
Safety	1800 grammes	JD 2.220
Nido	2500 grammes	JD 3.180
Klim	2500 grammes	JD 2.490
Klim	1800 grammes	JD 1.940
Avanti	1800 grammes	JD 1.940
Coast	2500 grammes	JD 2.690
Coast	1800 grammes	JD 1.900

According to a statement by the minister, each tin should bear details of the specifications of the milk, dates of production and expiry.

Jordan, India sign labour agreement in New Delhi

NEW DELHI (AP) — India and Jordan Saturday signed an agreement to protect living and working conditions of Indian labourers in Jordan, news reports said.

The memorandum of understanding, recruitment of Indian workers and their entry into Jordan would be regulated by the laws of the two countries, the United News of India said.

The memorandum, which is valid for three years, also calls for the appointment of a committee to oversee implementation, the news agency said.

The agreement was signed in New Delhi by India's Labour Minister Bineshwari Dubey, and his Jordanian counterpart, Marwan Akram Issa Dudin, the agency said.

Audit training course opens

AMMAN (Petra) — The Audit Bureau Saturday opened a training course for 20 employees from its own staff. The participants in the week-long course will be oriented on new trends on finan-

cial control matters related to government departments.

According to the bureau's director Hashem Dabbas the best five trainees will be sent on advanced training courses abroad.

Centre analyses trade between Islamic states

CASABLANCA, Morocco (R) — Trade within the one-billion-strong Islamic World is growing slowly, with geography and other obstacles blocking a faster pace of commerce, an Islamic group says.

Islamic countries still trade more with industrialised countries than they do among themselves, the Casablanca-based Islamic Centre for Trade Development says in its annual report.

The centre, affiliated to the 46-member Islamic Conference Organisation (ICO), said inter-Islamic trade in 1985 was worth \$20.4 billion, or 11.6 per cent of the Islamic countries' total of about \$175 billion.

"We are not happy with the situation," the centre's director general, Driss Alaoui Mdaghri, told reporters recently.

He cited geography as well as problems with transport, communications and customs regulations as hindrances to pan-Islamic commerce.

"Political will is needed to further promote trade among the Islamic countries," he said. "Studies and statements are not enough, unless these are translated into tangible steps."

The Jeddah-based ICO, formed in 1969 following the burning of Islam's revered Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem, seeks political, cultural, scientific and economic cohesion among its members spread across Africa, Middle East and Asia.

Islamic countries produce a vast variety of commodities, but few possess the technological or industrial base to turn raw materials into finished products com-

petitive with those of the industrialised world.

Most export earnings are spent on imports of industrial and consumer goods or in paying foreign debts.

Nearly half the ICO members produce oil or natural gas. In other minerals, Gabon ranks second in the world as a producer of manganese and Niger fourth for uranium.

Guinea has two-thirds of the world's bauxite reserves and Malaysia and Indonesia are among the 10 main tin and rubber producers.

ICO members are also important producers of iron ore, timber, phosphates, rice, jute, coffee, cocoa, vanilla and cotton.

The report said more than half the trade between Islamic countries involved oil, natural gas and related products. Trade in manufactured products was limited to textiles, cement, fertilisers and steel products.

The Casablanca centre has established a trade information network and drafted a trade preferences agreement to serve the Islamic World and as a protection against growing protectionism by developed countries.

Since 1979, Islamic trade fairs have been held regularly to overcome handicaps to trade within the Islamic World.

"Even though actions which have been so far taken are important and commendable, they remain insufficient in view of the ambitions of the Islamic community and require furthermore a 'long period of maturation to be fruitful,'" the centre said.

New decree allows Soviet enterprises to issue shares

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Council of Ministers has issued a decree giving enterprises the right to issue shares, the official TASS news agency said Friday.

Under the decree, which provides a legal basis for experiments already launched by some firms, individuals can hold shares only on the enterprise where they are employed. But enterprises can stow shares in each other, and shares can be issued by commercial banks, TASS said.

"In this way it will be possible to combine the interests of an enterprise with the interests of its workers," it added.

There will be one major difference between Soviet and Western-style share-holding. In the Soviet Union, shareholders will not have preference when manag-

ing the enterprise.

"As to participation in managing the enterprise, as distinct from the Western model, the rights of shareholders and non-shareholders will be absolutely equal," TASS said. "Otherwise democratic principles would be damaged."

"The incomes, naturally, will be different," it added.

There are also limits on how many shares a Soviet worker can buy. They cannot be worth more than 20 times the monthly wage or exceed 10,000 roubles (\$16,400), TASS said.

The total value of shares issued to workers may not exceed 30 per cent of the sum of an enterprise's fixed and current assets, it added.

The money an enterprise makes from selling the shares will

be invested in production, TASS said.

Share-holding is still relatively alien to communist economic thinking and the new decree was not expected to change that overnight.

Three enterprises in the Ukrainian city of Lvov were among the first to launch their own share schemes early this year.

In two cases, factories gave their workers a financial stake in the business and in the third, a market garden offered shares to outside buyers.

A prominent Soviet reform economist, Nikolai Shmelev, called for Western-style share-holding last February, saying it could raise money for industrial development and utilise millions of roubles of public savings.

Arab minerals company faces financial shortfall

RABAT (R) — The Arab Organisation for Mineral Resources said Friday it was owed 63 million dirhams (about \$8 million) in unpaid budget dues from most of its 16 members.

"The shortfall is causing concern," Secretary-General Ahmad Alouai m'Hamdi told the opening session of the group's annual ministerial conference.

He said falling world prices of raw materials, including minerals, had greatly affected the economies of many Arab countries.

He did not identify the defaulting countries, but conference sources said Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Morocco and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) were the only ones which paid their dues regularly.

Libya, Tunisia, Syria, Sudan, Qatar, Jordan, Iraq, Algeria, Somalia, Mauritania, Egypt and the Palestine Liberation Organisation are the other members of the group, launched in 1979.

The one-day conference approved a 15 million dirham (\$1.8 million) budget for 1989 and agreed to continue studies on several projects including an Arab gold smelter and a geological and mineral deposits map of the Islamic World.

The Rabat-based organisation has already produced the Arab World's small-scale thematic map of mineral deposits and geology costing \$2 million paid by Saudi Arabia.

The meeting elected Morocco's Energy and Mines Minister Mohammed Fethat as the new president of the organisation to succeed UAE Oil Minister Mana Said Al Oteiba.

The market would encourage the creation of large European companies which could seek out countries like Tunisia for investment, especially in the garment industry and in industries assembling pieces exported from Europe, he added.

Cheyysson, a former French foreign minister who is now commissioner for Mediterranean policy and North-South relations, said the European Community favoured a Greater Maghreb grouping Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia.

The presence of Libya in the group would not be an obstacle, he said. "Whenever we support a regional entity, we recognise that it's the responsibility of its members to decide who should be in it and who should not."

Western diplomats say Britain has reservations about the Greater Maghreb because of its poor relations with Libya.

"Nowhere can the expanded market worsen European protectionism, which is besides by far

the least severe in the world," he said.

"There's no reason why they shouldn't sell as much to Germany as they do to France... the single market will make it easier to penetrate markets where Tunisian products are still not well established," he said.

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the least severe in the world," he said.



Minister of Youth Awad Khleifat Friday presents a prize to a winner in a chess tournament held in Amman, as part of the Royal Chess Club's anniversary festivities (Petra photo)

Festival marks chess club anniversary

AMMAN (Petra) — A chess festival was organised at the Royal Chess Club in Amman Friday to mark the club's 16th anniversary.

A total of 70 chess players took part in the festival, which was attended by Minister of Youth Awad Khleifat and other officials.

In a brief statement, Khleifat said the game of chess had become more popular in Jordan thanks to the continued support from His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, His Majesty King Hussein's personal representative.

The ministry of youth will continue to support the club and the players, along with other sports federations in Jordan, Khleifat said.

The minister distributed medals and cups to the winners in Friday's matches.

Celtics defeat Yugoslavs in McDonalds Open

MADRID (AP) — Larry Bird scored 17 of his game-high 27 points in the second half and Kevin McHale sparked an early third-quarter surge to lead the Boston Celtics to a 113-85 victory over the Yugoslav National team Friday in the first round of the McDonald's Basketball Open.

The Yugoslav team trailed by just 53-47 at halftime, but McHale scored six points in a 10-2 spurt at the start of the third quarter as the Celtics pulled away. Bird had a 3-point shot in the fourth quarter.

Boston centre Robert Parish scored 20 points, 16 in the first half, and grabbed 19 rebounds. Zarko Paspalj led Yugoslavia with 18 points. Danko Cvjetkovic added 17 and Dino Rajda had 15.

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A Q 2

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K J 10 8 7 4

3 6

K J 4

A 7

The bidding:

North East South West

1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

2 NT Pass 4 ♠ Pass

Pass Pass

Opening lead: Eight of

We expect most of our readers to have no problem with this hand.

Cover up the East-West cards and decide how you, as South, would play four spades after the opening lead of the eight of diamonds.

The auction is normal, although South, with honors in every suit, might have ventured three no trump rather than four spades despite his

six-card suit. However, there is no denying that the final contract was the best, and a heavy favorite to succeed.

When this hand was played, declarer saw no problem. He won the opening lead in dummy with the queen and ran the nine of trumps to West's queen. The diamond return was again won on the table and another trump was led.

It was only when East stuffed a high heart on this that declarer's predicament began to dawn on him.

West took his trump ace, led a heart to his partner's ace and ruffed the diamond return for a one-trick set.

If you played the hand the same way, you were unlucky to go down. However, the opening lead should have alerted you to the possibility of a ruff, and you should have taken steps to forestall that eventually.

You can't afford to touch trumps. After winning the diamond opening lead you should immediately force out the ace of hearts. Win the diamond return in dummy and take a diamond discard on the third heart. That guarantees the contract regardless of who is short in diamonds. Easy, no?

THE BETTER HALF

By Harris



"I'm not used to such a fancy restaurant. Which fork do I use to pick my fingernails?"

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henry Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

RUTYL

SONOW

UPDELD

CALARI

WHAT THE EARTH'S TWO POLAR REGIONS ARE.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: A

Yesterday's Jumbles: MESSY PURGE GRABBY HAPPEN

Answer: What flatlet can be—THE "ARCH ENEMY"

SPORTS IN BRIEF

West Indies win Sharjah Trophy

SHARJAH (R) — West Indies won the Champions Trophy one-day cricket tournament when they beat Pakistan by 11 runs in the final Saturday. Scores: West Indies 235 for six (50 overs), Pakistan 224 (49.4 overs).

Denmark wins women's Bridge Olympiad

VENICE (R) — Denmark won the women's world Bridge Olympiad Friday night, beating Britain by 178 international match points to 157. In the open event the United States are leading Austria by 223 points to 181 after 64 boards, with 32 more boards to play. The young squad that brought Denmark its first world bridge trophy had played steadily throughout the two-week marathon, overcoming a record field of 35 rivals. Britain, narrow losers to the United States in the last Olympiad and winners of many world honours, were below their best, with only Nicola Smith Gardner showing championship form. Denmark may now be set for a successful run in women's bridge. Bettina Kalkerup and Charlotte Palmund, both in their early 20s and silver medalists in the 1986 world pairs championship, show great promise.

U.S. leads Austria in Bridge final

VENICE (R) — The United States led Austria by 143 points to 100 half-way through Friday's play in the marathon World Bridge Olympiad men's final. The Americans, fielding the best players in the world according to Bridge Federation ratings, made a strong early challenge for the only Bridge title they have never won. But Austria improved towards the end of the first 32-board session and much may depend on the tactics of U.S. captain Grant Baze.

Mayotte advances in Frankfurt tournament

FRANKFURT (R) — Titleholder and top seed Tim Mayotte of the United States swept aside unseeded West German Patrick Kuchner after losing the first three games of his quarter-final in the Frankfurt Cup Grand Prix tennis tournament Friday. In the semifinals he meets compatriot Jim Pugh, the sixth seed, who repeated his victory of last year over fourth-seeded American Brad Gilbert, winning 4-6, 6-2, 7-6 (8-6).

Edberg may boycott 1990 Grand Slam

TOKYO (R) — Wimbledon champion Stefan Edberg said Saturday he would boycott the four Grand Slam tennis tournaments in 1990 if "major problems" upset plans for a streamlined circuit. The Swedish world number three was speaking after losing to Australian John Fitzgerald in the semifinals of the Japan indoor tournament. He said part of the reason for his defeat was because he had played too much tennis recently and lost interest in his match against Fitzgerald, who won 7-6, 6-0. Many top men professionals have voiced their support for a new circuit in which players would not have to compete for the whole year, as many do now.

Sunshine Forever favoured to win

LAUREL (R) — American entry Sunshine Forever is favoured to overcome the anticipated challenge of a strong European field and win the 37th running of the \$750,000 D.C. International Horse Race Sunday. Eight of the 14 starters in this prestigious 1 1/4-mile

turf race are from Europe, including a representative of the Soviet Union for the second consecutive year. Kim, a three-year-old colt that is only the second Soviet horse to run in the United States since 1966, is considered an extreme long shot at the Laurel racecourse. But Squill, a French colt, and most welcome, an English colt, are highly regarded and expected to give 2-1 favourite Sunshine Forever a run for his money.

Kasparov moves into 1st place

REYKJAVIK (R) — Soviet world champion Garry Kasparov moved into joint first place after defeating Hungarian Gyula Sax in the fifteenth round of the world cup chess tournament in Iceland. Kasparov, playing white in Friday's game, shared first place with fellow Soviet Alexander Beliavsky with two rounds left to play in the \$100,000 tournament. Kasparov held the better position all the time and Sax resigned after 32 moves. Beliavsky was held to a draw with Victor Korchnoi. Dutch grandmaster Jan Timman seemed badly off form and lost easily to former world champion Mikhail Tal in a game lasting only 20 moves.

Drug tests to reduce rumours

HELSINKI (AP) — For the first time in international sports, contestants will be tested for blood doping at next February's World Ski Championships in Lahti, Finland, medical officials said Friday. Dr. Seppo Tikka, member of the medical board of the Lahti Winter Games, told the Associated Press that the tests for blood doping, which entails a transfusion of enriched blood before critical competitions, was to "clean up the sport and remove suspicion and the rumours which have been rampant."

Budd reported to be in training

LONDON (R) — Zola Budd, whose international running career seemed over when she quit Britain in May and returned to her native South Africa, was reported Friday to be considering a comeback. The London Daily Star newspaper quoted Budd as saying from her home in Bloemfontein: "I definitely want to run again at international level." South Africa is barred from international sports because of its apartheid policies and when Budd returned there suffering from nervous exhaustion, it appeared she had scuppered all hopes of pursuing an international career. But she told the Daily Star she had stayed clear of racing in her homeland in order to keep alive her chances of coming back to Britain, her adopted country.

Czechs defeat U.S. in indoor soccer

CANBERRA (AP) — Czechoslovakia edged the United States and Brazil, Spain and Australia scored one-sided wins in first round action in the world indoor soccer championships Friday. Czechoslovakia dominated its match against the United States winning 5-2 at Bruce stadium in Canberra. The Czech side was always in command and led 4-1 at halftime. Chief scorers for Czechoslovakia were Ivan Bubela and Radek Slavik with two goals each. Greg Lesniak and Jorge Tintinjer scored the U.S. side's two goals. Earlier, Brazil outgunned Japan to win their first round match 29-1, also at Bruce stadium. Spearheaded by Luis Ortiz and Carlos Garcia with eight and five goals respectively. Brazil scored the easiest of wins in the Group D match. Spain defeated New Zealand 19-2 at Beaton Park in Wollongong, south of Sydney, and Australia proved too strong for Italy, winning 12-1 at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra.

Athletic history is made at Paralympic games

SEOUL (AP) — A 68-year-old man from Australia won a gold medal in lawn bowling Saturday to become what may be the most decorated man in Paralympic games history.

He now holds 76 Paralympic medals, won in every games since the Paralympics began in 1960. Roy Fowler of Ipswich, Queensland, won his 35th gold Saturday, his first in the 1988 games. In past games, he also has won 25 silver and 16 bronze medals.

Fowler, a wheelchair athlete, has won medals in swimming, archery and table tennis, but the Australian team office said he was entered only in lawn bowling for the Oct. 15-24 games in Seoul. Before a spinal injury disabled him, Fowler was active in athletics in Australia in rugby, boxing and wrestling.

The 8th international Paralympics, scheduled to end Oct. 24, includes more than 4,000 athletes from 62 nations and is the largest games for the disabled ever held.

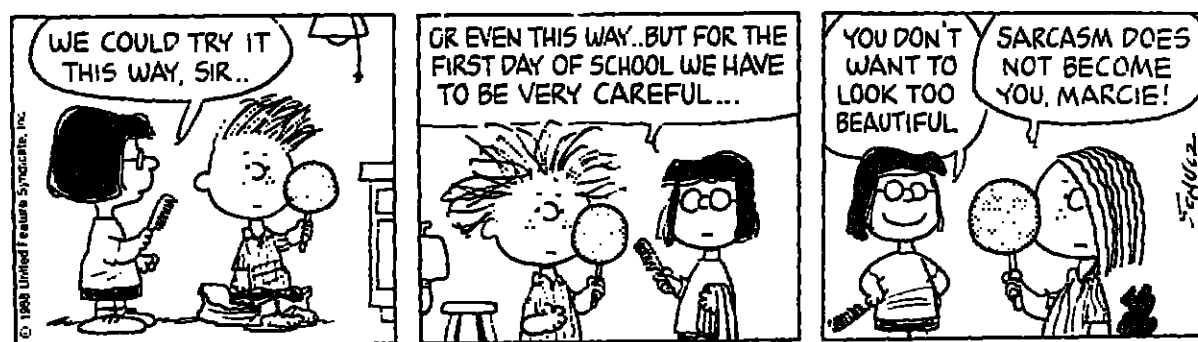
An Italian couple has become the first husband and wife team to capture gold medals in the International Paralympic games.

Santo Mangano, an air rifleist from Pisa, has won three gold medals. His wife, Mariella Bertini, has won one gold and one silver medal in fencing. Both are wheelchair athletes.

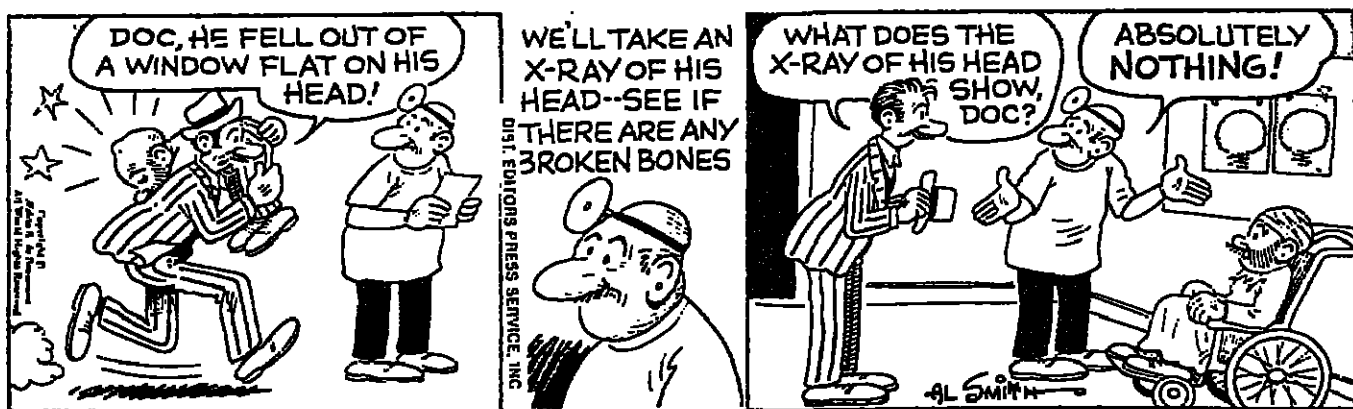
Disabled swimmers competing in the Paralympic games say water gives them a feeling of movement their bodies can never have on land and swimming relieves frustrations.

"When I swim, it's like I have my arms," said Eric Richard of France.

Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Moscow plans major shifts in political setup

MOSCOW (R) — A rule allowing parliament to decide on the use of limited contingents of the armed forces, an apparent check against another Afghanistan-style involvement, is among proposed amendments to the Soviet constitution.

The proposal follows growing public debate over whether a Kremlin decision in December, 1979, to send forces to Afghanistan was right and calls for guarantees against it happening again.

The amendments would dramatically alter the Soviet political system, transferring many of the Communist Party's powers to elected officials and legislatures in an attempt to make government more democratic.

The draft amendments, published Saturday in the Soviet press, include a provision for the recall of the country's president and assign to the now largely ceremonial post many powers previously enjoyed by the party leader.

The Supreme Soviet, or parliament, is expected in a special session next month to adopt the proposed changes, which were urged by Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev and endorsed at the Communist Party conference last summer.

The official news agency TASS said that "not a single state, economic or social issue may be tackled without the Soviets' knowledge" under the new system.

The clause on limited military intervention is one of the better examples of this power transfer. The decision to send Soviet troops into Afghanistan in 1979 was made by then-Kremlin leader Leonid Brezhnev and an inner circle of party colleagues.

According to the proposed article 113, section 15, the new streamlined Supreme Soviet would have to approve such a move.

"The Supreme Soviet adopts decisions about the use of contingents of the armed forces of the USSR in case of the necessity to meet international treaty obligations on maintaining peace and security," the article says.

Popular writer and editor Grigory Baklanov told the Communist Party conference July 1 the Kremlin's dispatch of troops to Afghanistan was "a decision

taken in defiance of the machinery of democracy."

He urged the creation of guarantees "to prevent anything of the kind every occurring again" and other Soviet intellectuals have said they warned the Kremlin the move was a mistake.

"Our institute expressed a profoundly negative attitude to the sending of troops into Afghanistan. We warned of the harm it would cause and said it had little chance of success," recalled academician Oleg Bogomolov.

Bogomolov, director of the think-tank Institute of the Economy of the World Socialist System, made his comments in a letter published in Literaturnaya Gazeta.

Soviet officials have continued to defend the involvement, but agreed to withdraw their 100,000 troops by Feb. 15, 1989, under quadripartite accords signed in Geneva this year. Moscow says its forces entered Afghanistan at the request of Kabul to help a friendly government in its war against Afghan rebels.

Once the proposed constitutional amendments have been approved by the Supreme Soviet, the way will be cleared for the election next spring of a new Congress of People's Deputies. Its 2,250 deputies will elect a Soviet president and appoint a smaller, bicameral parliament from among its members.

The parliament will also be called the Supreme Soviet but will be in session for up to eight months a year instead just meeting for a few days to approve Communist Party decisions.

Gorbachev, already made Soviet president at a meeting of the Supreme Soviet Oct. 1, is expected to be elected to the new presidential post while keeping his title of party chief.

Once installed, the president will head the parliament, name the prime minister, head the defence council, sign legislation into law and represent the Soviet Union abroad.



AIDS quilt, a memorial to American victims of the disease, spread across the Ellipse in Washington, with the White House in the background. Friends, relatives and supporters of the project read off the names of the dead contained in the 8, 288 panel.

AIDS cure might be a dream, U.S. health official warns

WASHINGTON (R) — The top U.S. health officer has offered a bleak assessment of man's ability to combat AIDS, saying a vaccine may never be found.

In an interview Friday with Reuters and the international television agency Visnews, U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop also said taxpayers might not forever want to bear the financial burden of the deadly disease.

Koop said the viral disease acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) would strike 365,000 Americans by 1993 —

more than one out of every 1,000 people in the United States.

"Remember, we have never cured a viral disease. And so, for people to have the expectation that because this is AIDS and is a killer, that we're going to have a cure for this virus disease, is a little bit fantastical," he said.

"You know people are just dreaming that this could happen."

Koop said it took 19 years to find a vaccine for hepatitis B, a relatively simple virus.

"That's why I say I don't see anything in this century in the

way of a vaccine against AIDS," Koop said.

"And some of my virology friends say, 'you're never going to see it. It is just too complicated, we'll never do it.'"

Governments, he said, may some day balk at the escalating cost of AIDS treatment.

AZT, the only drug so far found that prolongs an AIDS patient's life, costs about \$9,000 per person and, Koop said, "only produces a postponement of death."

"So I think while the emotional pitch is so high governments respond to that kind of pressure," he said.

British girl missing in Greek ship wreck

ATHENS (Agencies) — Two crew members died and a 14-year-old girl was missing after a Greek cruise liner packed with British school children was in collision with a freighter and sank Friday night, the Ministry of Merchant Marine said.

In the panic following the collision off the Port of Piraeus near Athens, 72 people were injured. Twenty-four remained in hospital for treatment and a British woman identified as Gwendoline Howard lost a leg.

The two crew members were Greek and a ministry spokesman said Saturday the missing child was Vienne Barley of Britain, one of the 475 children and teachers on a cruise aboard the ill-fated liner Jupiter.

The 7,000-tonne Jupiter with a crew of 120, was rammed by the Italian freighter Adige 15 minutes after leaving port for an eight-day cruise to the Aegean islands.

"We heard a great crash and the ship immediately started to sink. Kids, parents, teachers jumped into the sea. There was no time to lower the life boats," one Jupiter seaman told reporters.

Another crew member said: "There were crying children

everywhere and a number jumped with or without vests into the sea. At the time they (the children) were having dinner. Thank God we were near port. If not we would have mourned a great number of victims."

Rescue teams — including army helicopters, tugboats and a second cruise liner — rushed to the scene and plucked some 60 passengers from the water. An army plane firing flares directed the operation.

"This collision could have led to a very large loss of life," British Ambassador Sir Jeremy Thomas said in a statement of praise.

"I would like to pay tribute to all the Greek rescue services...and to all those in charge of the children for what they did throughout the night."

"I would also like to pay tribute to the British schoolchildren for their calmness and their courage. They were an example to us all," he said in a statement.

Merchant Marine Minister Evangelos Yannopoulos said in a statement that the Italian freighter was to blame and that its skipper, Captain Falvio Caminale, was being held on manslaughter charges.

Hirohito's death could prompt suicides of elders

TOKYO (R) — The death of Emperor Hirohito, now gravely ill in his palace, could prompt the suicide of some Japanese who identify totally with the man who has reigned over them for 62 years, some academics say.

Younger Japanese have mixed feelings about the emperor's role, but his death will profoundly affect many elderly people who grew up believing that he is a living God.

"Some people may commit suicide after the emperor dies as happened in 1912 when the Meiji Emperor (Hirohito's grandfather) passed away," said Masayuki Suzuki, professor of Japanese history at Kobe University.

A social psychologist at a Tokyo University, who declined to be identified, said that despite Hirohito's renunciation of any

claim to divinity after World War II some Japanese still believed him to be a God.

Many elderly Japanese, conditioned by childhood teaching, have a profound reverence for the 87-year-old emperor even if they do not believe him to be divine.

"Moral psychology is operating on those well-wishers," political commentator Hideaki Kase said.

He also said some Japanese could kill themselves on hearing of the emperor's death, particularly those burdened with personal problems who might find this an opportune time to end their lives in a manner that accorded with deep-rooted Japanese tradition.

"Some Japanese, especially those over 50 years, regard the emperor with awe, having shared joys and sorrows with him," according to the historian Suzuki.

Trapped whale reported missing, presumed dead

BARROW, Alaska (AP) — One of three trapped whales disappeared under the ice and was presumed dead Saturday, a biologist said only hours after rescuers scored their greatest success in moving the animals closer to open water.

The whale named Bone was last seen late Friday afternoon, said Geoff Carroll, a biologist helping lead the effort to rescue the three California gray whales.

By midnight, Carroll and others on the ice near this small town on the Arctic Ocean had given up hope that Bone might rejoin the others. Bone, Crossbeak and Bonnet have stuck together since becoming trapped in unseasonably heavy ice more than two weeks ago during their annual migration southward.

The missing whale got its name because skin on its snout had been rubbed down to the bone by the rough ice surrounding a breathing hole that kept the mammals alive. That condition may have let to Bone's death, said biologist Craig George.

"Once they get a bone infection, they go pretty quick," George said.

Esquimaux led the whales almost a half-kilometer closer to open water earlier Friday by carving a string of 24 breathing holes in the ice away from the main hole the animals had been using.

Meanwhile, a huge, helicopter-dropped concrete block bashed a trail from the direction of the open water.

About two dozen Eskimo volunteers, many of them bowhead whale hunters, worked about eight hours to cut the three-by-nine metre breathing holes with chain saws.

"The whales have moved all the way to the 24th hole," said Colonel Tom Carroll, commander of the Alaska Army National Guard's portion of the rescue effort.

De-icers, which keep the holes open by agitating the water, freed the Eskimos to work on new holes. Until the devices arrived earlier this week, rescuers had spent all their time keeping the original breathing holes from freezing up.

Another dozen de-icing devices and a dozen more chain saws were on the way to Barrow.

A huge CH-54 skycrane helicopter loaned by the guard began working toward the whales from about six-kilometer, so as not to scare the mammals. It used a five-ton, steel-tipped concrete block suspended from its belly to punch four holes in the ice at 25-metre intervals.

According to U.S. congressional investigators, Marcos and his family diverted huge sums of money — some said about \$3 billion — abroad over the years, investing particularly in expensive New York property.

A reporter who visited the abandoned presidential palace in Manila said Imelda had left behind enough expensive designer clothes, shoes, handbags and other accessories to fill a department store.

According to U.S. congressional investigators, Marcos and his family diverted huge sums of money — some said about \$3 billion — abroad over the years, investing particularly in expensive New York property.

Aquino's government pledged it would use any legal means available to recover the money.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Shevardnadze names new deputy

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze has a new first deputy. Alexander Bessmertnykh, the official news agency TASS said Friday. Bessmertnykh, a specialist in U.S. affairs, was appointed first deputy foreign minister by the Soviet Council of Ministers, TASS said. He will apparently share the title with Yuli Vorontsov, a diplomatic trouble shooter who was recently appointed as ambassador to Afghanistan.

Callaghan leaves hospital

LONDON (R) — Former Labour Prime Minister Lord Callaghan, 76, has left hospital where he was admitted after collapsing Thursday. Hospital officials said he was released Friday after doctors kept him under observation and found nothing wrong. Callaghan had felt faint after giving a reading at a memorial service in London for a former leader of both the House of Commons and Lords. Last June he underwent tests after suffering a mild stroke.

Big heroin bust in Australia

SYDNEY (AP) — Police Saturday said they had made the largest seizure of heroin in Australia's history after smashing an international drug ring operating from Hong Kong. A total of 21 people were arrested here and in Hong Kong following the seizure of 43.5 kilograms of high-grade Thai heroin, with an estimated street value of \$40 million.

Kurd linked to Palme murder on trial

STOCKHOLM (AP) — An accused Kurd with possible links to the assassination of Prime Minister Olof Palme was arraigned in court Friday on charges of a murder in West Germany. The defendant, whose name has been withheld under Swedish press regulations, allegedly was a member of the Kurdish Workers Party (PKK). He was ordered held for trial on charges of killing a PKK defector in Berlin in 1984. West Germany reportedly has sought his extradition. The suspect has denied committing the murder.

Locusts in Caribbean pose little threat

WASHINGTON (R) — The Caribbean is not seriously threatened by African desert locusts that have invaded the area, an international group of insect and crop specialists said in a report released Friday. The Agency for International Development (AID) released the group's findings after a recent emergency meeting to discuss the large swarm of locusts that were first spotted north of French Guiana about two weeks ago. The locusts were swept across the Atlantic from Cape Verde by hurricane Joan. Officials had feared the swarm would breed, set up permanent colonies and expand into North America.

U.S. beefs up security in S. Korea

SEOUL (AP) — Police stepped up security around U.S. legations after students hurled a firebomb over the fence of a club for American servicemen, police said Saturday. About 20 students chanting anti-American slogans hurled homemade explosives at the United States Organisations building Friday night, Seoul newspapers reported. Police said there was no damage and nobody was injured. Newspapers said the students in Friday's attack scattered leaflets demanding that the United States apologise for assaults by American soldiers on South Koreans.

Marcos vows to fight charges

NEW YORK (R) — Ousted Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos, who still dreams of returning to his homeland, now must fight to stay out of an American jail.

Marcos, 71, and his wife Imelda were charged Friday in a \$268 million racketeering scheme alleged to have started when he was the authoritarian ruler of the Philippines and continued into his American exile.

The Marcoses were accused of looting the Philippine treasury of \$103 million and defrauding U.S. banks of \$165 million.

"This is a plan hatched and begun in the Philippines to move massive amounts of money illegally into the United States," said U.S. attorney Rudolph Giuliani. "Then the Marcoses came to the United States and continued their illegal activities."

Saudi Arabian financier Adnan Khashoggi, a central figure in the secret sale of arms to Iran by President Ronald Reagan's administration, also was indicted.

A Washington-based lawyer

for the Marcoses, Richard Hibe, told a Honolulu news conference that the couple would plead innocent when arraigned in Manhattan Oct. 31.

"The charges are false," Hibe said.

Philippine President Corason Aquino, who rode to power on a civilian-military revolt that forced Marcos to flee the country in 1986, Saturday welcomed the indictment and said it would deter other dictators from plundering their countries.

"I hope that this and other similar efforts undertaken in other countries to investigate the crimes of the Marcoses will lead to early recovery of the stolen assets that rightfully belong to the Filipino people," she said in a statement.

Hibe charged that Marcos had been given until Thursday to accept or reject a "deal" which would have required him and his wife to plead guilty to felony charges or racketeering — obtaining money illegally — and

testify against others, including family members, with no assurances they would avoid jail.

Giuliani refused to comment on any plea bargain negotiations.

Hibe suggested that the United States promised to indict Marcos during negotiations on extending agreements covering U.S. military bases in the Philippines. Under an agreement announced earlier this week, the United States will pay much less for the bases than the Philippine government first demanded.

He expressed concern that Marcos "may not be physically able to withstand the rigours of a criminal trial of this scope and magnitude."

Marcos did not attend the news conference. In the two-and-a-half years he has lived in Hawaii, he has been treated for a variety of illnesses, including chest pains.

Another Marcos lawyer, John J. Tighe, said the Marcoses were "deeply disappointed" that Reagan did not prevent the indictment.

Marcos — iron-fisted ruler for 20 years

NEW YORK (R) — In his lifetime, Ferdinand Marcos has played many roles — war hero, president of the Philippines, authoritarian ruler and political exile.

On Friday he became a man fighting to stay out of an American jail, accused by the U.S. government, which once firmly supported him, of looting his national treasury.

Marcos ruled the Philippines with an iron fist for 20 years before ill health, corruption and a revolt by his army backed by millions of ordinary Filipinos in February 1986 forced him into exile in Hawaii.

A brilliant lawyer and an imposing orator, Marcos for many years enjoyed popularity and prestige at home and the friendship and praise of American presidents abroad.

But as the Philippine economy collapsed amid massive

corruption and as rebellion against his increasingly autocratic rule mounted, the ailing president relied more and more on guile and stern measures to retain power.

The once-authoritarian figure, surrounded by sycophants, fled his country following a military uprising with popular backing and after the United States finally withdrew its support.

Dubbed corrupt and despotic by his critics, Marcos was the first man to win the presidency twice, in 1965 and 1969, as he vowed to "make this country great again."

But it was his subsequent imposition of martial law for nine years and the imprisonment of many of his critics that helped keep him at the centre of political power.

It was not until the popular and economic unrest sparked

by the murder in 1983 of Benigno Aquino, the opposition leader considered his most dangerous challenger, that Marcos first seemed to be losing his powerful grip.

When he called presidential elections in early 1986, Aquino's widow Corason plunged into the political fray to run against him.

Winning the support of the people, "Cory" Aquino became a focus of opposition to Marcos, who was forced to flee after widespread condemnation of his rigging of the election.

U.S. concern

The United States, anxious to maintain stability in the former American colony because of the strategic importance of its two large military bases there, had appealed to Marcos to stamp out corruption and

introduce democracy.

While he and his ambitious, former beauty queen wife Imelda enjoyed a fabulous lifestyle with their close circle, the economy wilted under mismanagement and corruption, and communist rebels waging a bloody war in the countryside gained strength.

Although Marcos' salary was only \$3,000 a year, his wife, popularly known as the "iron butterfly" who loved to consort with the rich and famous, had accounts at the best stores in Paris, Rome and New York.

According to investigations both in the Philippines and by a U.S. Senate committee, Marcos diverted aid and investment into his own pocket and helped the business interests of his associates to flourish.

A glimpse of Marcos' enormous riches was revealed when

the U.S. air force planes that escorted the Marcos entourage into exile were found to be carrying more than \$1.5 million in newly printed Philippine pesos and over \$5 million worth of jewellery.

A reporter who visited the abandoned presidential palace in Manila said Imelda had left behind enough expensive designer clothes, shoes, handbags and other accessories to fill a department store.

According to U.S. congressional investigators, Marcos and his family diverted huge sums of money — some said about \$3 billion — abroad over the years, investing particularly in expensive New York property.

Aquino's government pledged it would use any legal means available to recover the money.



Gay Rodeo stamped out

FALLON, Nevada (R) — The International Gay Rodeo Association has been stamped out of a fourth Nevada town where it tried to hold its annual championship. District Judge Archie Blake Friday banned organisers from holding the event in Fallon and the Nevada Supreme Court upheld the decision. Prosecutors had sought the injunction on the grounds that the organisers had failed to provide plans for dealing with traffic, sanitation and crowd control. But an attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), who appealed the injunction, said the issue was not health or safety but "political expression and freedom of speech." The association's president has blamed anti-homosexual discrimination for the bans.

Half of France watches lesbian film

PARIS (R) — Half of France's television viewers waited up to watch a pornographic film after a private channel was forced to postpone its screening from prime time. The Council of State, France's legal watchdog, had threatened La Cinq channel with a one million franc (\$160,400) fine if it showed the lesbian movie "Joy and Joan" at 8:30 p.m. Thursday. Television viewing institutes said 50 per cent of viewers stayed up to watch it at 11:45 p.m.

U.S. dogs fight drugs

LAGOS (R) — U.S.-bred sniffer dogs reported for duty at Lagos airport this week and have already helped catch five drug smugglers, a Nigerian minister said Friday. Justice Minister Bola Ajibola said the five dogs would soon be joined by others at all international ports and airports. Lagos radio reported. The dogs, whose breed was not specified, are part of joint moves to fight the heroin transit trade in Nigeria. Senior U.S. and Nigerian legal officials are meeting in Lagos to negotiate a treaty on mutual assistance in combating drug-related crime. The U.S. ambassador, Princeton Lyman, said in a speech this month that incomplete statistics showed 1,003 Nigerians were arrested around the world in 1986 for drug trafficking.

Builder sues Jagger

SANTA ANA, California (R) — The builder of a waterfall and stream on Mick Jagger's Caribbean island hideaway has sued the rock singer for refusing to pay more than \$10,000. Encon Environmental Conservation, a California contractor, alleged in a lawsuit filed in federal court Thursday that Jagger agreed to pay the cost of all materials in advance and then pay later for labour and airfare expenses. According to the suit, the lead singer of the Rolling Stones paid \$27,000 but refused to hand over an additional \$10,065 for the project on the tiny island of Mustique.

Rare finds in Moscow

MOSCOW (AP) — Electric appliances such as refrigerators, irons and washing machines have vanished from Moscow stores, partly because production levels have stagnated amid rising demand, a newspaper reported Sunday. The article in Trud, the Soviet labour daily, was the latest in a series of recent exposes on what the Soviets call "deficits" — the disappearance of goods from stores. Muscovites are coping with deficits on hard-to-find products ranging from razor blades to detergent. President Mikhail Gorbachev has said an improvement in the array of goods and services available to Soviet consumers is needed to prove his economic reform has taken hold. But problems with quality and quantity abound. The Trud report said that in some cases, Soviets are buying 10 irons at a time when they appear on the market.

Heroin in a spool

ATHENS (R) — Greek police arrested four Syrians and a Lebanese who smuggled heroin into the country in spools of thread, a police spokesman said Sunday. The gang bought heroin in Syria, packed the drug around spools, covered it with thread and imported it by train through Turkey for a thread company they owned. The gang was arrested Friday trying to sell heroin to an undercover agent in a seaside resort, the spokesman said.